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*Legislative
Preview*

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January 5, 2018

The 2018 session of the Georgia General Assembly begins on Monday, January 8th. We are expecting a typical first week of the session that should include Governor Nathan Deal's last State of the State address, committee assignments, and other organizational activities. Committee assignments for the House of Representatives have already been made while Senate committee assignments are expected during the first week. The Vice Chairman of the House Banks & Banking Committee did change this year from Rep. Lee Hawkins (R) to Rep. Jeff Deffenbaugh (R). The Committee also gained two new members this session, Rep. Clay Cox (R) and Rep. Marc Morris (R), due to the departure of Rep. Geoff Duncan (R), Rep. Brian Strickland (R) and Rep. Chuck Williams (R).

It is unknown just how long the session may last. With primaries being held in May, legislators are likely to be anxious to complete the session so they can raise additional campaign funds and have time to conduct effective campaigns. We will see new leadership in the Senate as Butch Miller was recently elected to serve as the President Pro Tempore to replace Sen. David Shafer, who is running for the Lieutenant Governor position in the May primaries and stepped down from a leadership position in the Senate. Changes in the House of Representatives and Senate are detailed below:

- Sen. Vincent Fort (R) resigned to run for Atlanta Mayor. He is replaced by Sen. Nikema Williams (D).
- Sen. Hunter Hill (R) resigned to run for Governor. He is replaced by Sen. Jen Howard (D).
- Sen. Rick Jeffares (R) resigned to run for Lt. Gov. Special election will be held January 9, 2018 for his replacement.
- Rep. Stacey Abrams (D) resigned to run for Governor. She is replaced by Rep. Bee Nguyen (D).
- Rep. Amy Carter (R) resigned effective 12/31/2017. No special election date has been set thus far.
- Rep. Bruce Broadrick (R) resigned effective 9/19/2017. He is replaced by Kasey Carpenter (R).
- Rep. Geoff Duncan (R) resigned to run for Lt. Gov. He is replaced by Marc Morris (R).

- Rep. Stacey Evans (D) resigned to run for Governor. She is replaced by Teri Anulewicz (D).
- Rep. Howard Maxwell (R) announced that he will not seek reelection after his term expires.
- Rep. Regina Quick (R) resigned effective 8/24/2017. She is replaced by Deborah Gonzalez (D).
- Rep. Brian Strickland (R) resigned to run for district 17 Senate seat. Special election will be held January 9, 2018 for his replacement.
- Rep. Keisha Waites (D) resigned effective 9/18/2017. She is replaced by Kim Schofield (D).
- Rep. Chuck Williams resigned effective 8/28/2017. He is replaced by Jonathan Wallace (D).

The 2018 session will be the second session of a two-year term of the General Assembly. So, all bills introduced during the 2017 session that did not pass and were not defeated will be live bills for the 2018 session. To review some of the outstanding bills that may be debated and voted upon from last session, please look at the [2017 Legislation CBA is Tracking](#) document for more information. We will be closely watching bills that may have an impact on our industry. Carryover bills that we are tracking include boat titling; title pawn; fair business practice act; notary public revisions; money transmission transactions; corporate registrations; Georgia personal data security act; industrial loans; the FAST Act; foreclosure confirmation waiver prohibition; garnishments; the Save, Earn, Win Act; and, banking improvement zones. We anticipate another bill being dropped this session for another Department of Banking and Finance Housekeeping bill. We also expect a bill to be dropped to provide revisions to the Uniform Power of Attorney Act that passed last session.

We hope you will follow the developments of the session carefully in the CBA's weekly *Legislative Updates* sponsored by **James-Bates-Brannan-Groover-LLP**, CBA's General Counsel, and provide us with any feedback or questions that you may have. In addition, please plan to attend the **CBA's Day at the Capitol Reception** scheduled from 3:30-6:00PM on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at the Sloppy Floyd Building across from the Capitol. It is extremely important that you attend this reception and meet with your local legislators, strengthen your relationships with them, express your views on issues, and let them know you are available for discussions anytime they have a question regarding an issue or pending legislation impacting our industry. If you have any questions before or during the session, please contact Rob Braswell at rob@cbaofga.com or Lori Godfrey at lori@cbaofga.com.

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