CAPITOL BUZZ

Georgia Tech Updates from the State Capitol VOLUME IX, ISSUE VI – Monday, March 21, 2016



FOLLOW

The General Assembly nears the finish line today in the final week of the legislative session. The House and Senate will convene at 10:00 a.m. Tuesday for day 39, and again on Thursday for day 40.

The Sine Die issue of *Capitol Buzz* will be sent Thursday evening after the House and Senate adjourn the 2016 legislative session.

Stay tuned to learn about final updates on the Fiscal Year 2017 budget and key legislative action taken by the House and Senate.



Calvin Johnson (left) and Rep. Taylor Bennett (right) at the State Capitol this session. The two played on the Georgia Tech football team together.

Georgia Tech alumnus recognized by House



On March 10, 2016, State Rep. Pedro "Pete" Marin recognized Georgia Tech alumnus, Allen Chang, for his accomplishments in founding a technology company in Georgia and being named to the 2016 class of Forbes 30 Under 30. Joined by two fellow Georgia Tech alumni, Mr. Chang visited with Rep. Marin and the Georgia Tech Government and Community Relations team at the State Capitol to receive House Resolution 1152.

Two Georgia Tech alumni legislators complete first session

After winning special elections last year, Rep. Taylor Bennett (D – Brookhaven) and Rep. Clay Pirkle (R – Sycamore) are now close to finishing their first legislative session in the House of Representatives. Rep. Bennett is an International Affairs graduate currently practicing law at his firm, Bennett Law Group. Rep. Pirkle graduated with an Economics degree and is the owner of Pirkle Farms in Sycamore, Georgia.



Rep. Taylor Bennett (left) and Rep. Clay Pirkle (right), join ten fellow Georgia Tech alumni in the legislature.

GEORGIA TECH CAPITOL BUZZ >> Updates from the State Capitol





Renee Dodson is an International Affairs major from Fayetteville, GA. This session Renee is working in the office of Senator Renee Unterman (R – 45), Chair of the Senate Health & Human Services Committee.



Victoria Doris is a Public Policy major from Newnan, GA. This session Victoria is working in the House of Representatives Media Services Office.

LEGISLATIVE ROUNDUP

Updates on bills and resolutions from our watch list:

HB 74	5 Passed Senate Appropriations Committee
	Renews provision allowing USG institutions to carry forward a small amount of funds from one fiscal year to the next.

- HB 751 Conference Committee Appointed General appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2017.
- HB 779 Passed Senate Provides definitions and regulations related to the use of unmanned aircraft systems and images captured by such systems for law enforcement purposes.
- HB 792 Passed Senate Judiciary Committee Permits the carrying, possession, and use of electroshock weapons by students or employees at a public university.
- HB 801 Passed Senate Revises current provisions regarding the HOPE scholarship to include certain STEM-related courses as optional rigor requirements.
- HB 859Passed; Sent to Governor Changes current provisions to allow certain licensed firearm holders to carry weapons on college campuses and restricts those persons from carrying into buildings or property used for athletic sporting events or student housing.
- SR 1130 Adopted Recognizing May 6, 2016, as Georgia STEM Day at the State Capitol.
- SR 1132 Passed Senate Rules Committee Creates the Senate Study Committee on Venture Capital Investments in Georgia.
- SR 1183 Adopted Recognizing and commending Georgia Tech alumna, Patrise Perkins-Hooker.
- HR 1584 Adopted Recognizing and commending former Georgia Tech football player, Mr. Calvin Johnson, Jr.