



GEORGIA CANINE COALITION, INC.  
GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY END OF SESSION REVIEW  
First Term 2025-2026

Below is the report of the end of the First Term of the Two-Year Session (2025-2026). If a bill did not pass this session, it can be considered in the next Session starting in January 2026.

HOUSE BILLS

HB 75 – To amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, so as to revise certain provisions relating to the impounding of domesticated animals by a government agency, to require a court order prior to the euthanasia of any impounded domestic animal, and for other purposes. The GCC does not support this bill and it was recommitted 2/6/25.

HB 88 – To amend Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, to provide for the purchase of loans made to students for educational purposes for veterinary technicians, and for other purposes. This bill provides for loan repurchases in consideration of a GA resident practicing veterinary technology full time in “rural” Georgia (county population of 50,000 or less) for up to 3 periods of 12 months each, in the amount of up to \$10,000 each. The GCC supports this bill and it was recommitted on 4/4/25.

HB 172 – To amend Part 6A of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state veterinary education, and for other purposes. This bill increases the amount of student loan repurchases in consideration of a GA resident D.V.M. practicing veterinary medicine in “rural” Georgia for up to 3 periods of 12 months each, from \$20,000 to up to \$30,000 each, and increases the population threshold from 35,000 to 50,000 for the classification of “rural” in this instance. The GCC supported this bill, it passed and was sent to Gov. Kemp on 4/9/25 for his signature. He signed it on 5/12/25 and it became effective 7/1/25.

HB 177 – To amend Title 19 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to domestic relations, so as to provide protection for household pets in both family violence and dating violence protective orders, and for other purposes. The GCC supported this bill, it passed and was sent to Gov. Kemp on 4/8/25 for his signature. He signed it on 5/13/25 and it became effective on 7/1/25.

HB 331 – To amend Article 1 of Chapter 11 of Title 4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provision regarding animal protection, so as to prohibit the transfer of certain domestic animals at certain locations, including any public or commercial parking lot, park, recreation area, transient or seasonal flea market, and for other purposes. Exemptions include licensed rescues and shelters, transfers at residences, veterinarian offices, law enforcement facilities, other business establishments, as well as transfers by a paid entrant as part of an event sanctioned by a national breed club or association, 4-H program, or similar agricultural exhibition. This bill was an improvement over similar legislation from 2023 (HB573) and included exemptions that addressed our concerns in previous versions. The GCC supported this bill, it passed and was sent to Gov. Kemp 4/7/25 for his signature. He signed it on 5/9/25 and it became effective on 7/1/25.

HB 668 – To amend Title 16, Chapter 4 of Title 30, and Chapter 6 of Title 40 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, to provide for a criminal penalty for a person who causes death or physical harm to a service dog, to provide for a penalty for persons who misrepresent the need for a service dog, and for other purposes. The GCC supports this bill and it was recommitted 4/4/25.

HR 243 – A resolution to commend the benefits and contributions of purebred dogs and recognize May 1, 2025, as Purebred Dog Day at the state capitol. Spearheaded by the GCC and sponsored by Representative Hong of the 103<sup>rd</sup>, Williams of the 148<sup>th</sup>, and Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>. Adopted 2/11/2025.

#### SENATE BILLS

SB 20 – To amend Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, to provide for the purchase of loans made to students for educational purposes for veterinarians who practice shelter medicine and veterinarians who practice in nonprofit pet sterilization clinics, and for other purposes. The GCC was neutral on this bill, it passed and was sent to Gov. Kemp on 4/10/25 for his signature. He signed it on 5/14/25 and it became effective on 7/1/25.

SB 102 - To amend Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 12 of Title 16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, to prohibit fighting of dogs and game cocks, to prohibit possession or sale of fighting relating objects, and for other purposes. Addressing our concerns of previous versions, this bill includes exemptions for equipment used in practices not otherwise specifically prohibited by law, including training for competition, events, shows, hunting, working livestock, and other practices. The GCC is opposed to animal fighting and supports this bill which was recommitted on 4/4/25.

SB 105 – To amend Chapter 50 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, to authorize licensed veterinarians and veterinary technicians to practice, under certain circumstances, veterinary teleadvice, veterinary teletriage, and veterinary telemedicine, and for other purposes. The GCC was neutral on this bill, it passed and was sent to Gov. Kemp for his signature on 4/10/25. He signed it on 5/13/25 and it became effective on 7/1/25.

SR 96 - A resolution to commend the benefits and contributions of purebred dogs and recognize May 1, 2025 as Purebred Dog Day at the state capitol. Spearheaded by the GCC and sponsored by Senators Dixon of the 45<sup>th</sup>, Goodman of the 8<sup>th</sup>, Anavitarte of the 31<sup>st</sup>, Strickland of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, and Cowser of the 46<sup>th</sup>. Adopted 2/20/25.

SR 255 – A resolution to create a Senate Study Committee on Combating Unscrupulous Companion Animal Breeding Practices, and for other purposes. The GCC did not support this resolution and will be monitoring the resulting developments. Adopted 4/2/25.