

LEGISLATIVE ALERT #1 – January 26, 2007

*	Bill#	Author	Title and/or Summary	Status	GACP Comments
*	HB 5	Representatives Mary Oliver of 83rd, Stan Watson of 91st, Billy Mitchell of 88 th , Karla Drenner of 86th, others	Points Penalty for Using Cell Phones This bill would add a point penalty for the use of cell phones, etc. under certain circumstances.	Assigned to House Motor Vehicles Committee	Relates to automobile accidents and the use of cell phones. This bill also changes the point system associated with driver's licenses.
*	HB 6	Representatives Bobby Franklin of 43 rd and Bobby Reese of 98 th	Carrying and possession of firearms during certain emergencies This bill relates to firearms possession during certain emergencies as declared by the Governor.	Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee	Would eliminate the Governor's authority to suspend sales or transportation of firearms during declared emergencies. Additionally, prohibits law enforcement, Nation Guard personnel from taking guns away from citizens during declared emergencies.
*	HB 7	Representative Timothy Bearden of 68 th	Concealed weapons; transporting of certain firearms This bill relates to carrying a conceal weapon.	Not yet assigned to Committee.	Would permit a firearm to be located anywhere in a vehicle.
*	HB 48	Representatives Jim Chambers of 81 st , Timothy Bearden of 68 th and Harry Geisiner of 48 th .	Georgia State Indemnification Fund This bill relates primarily to firefighters that may die within 24 hours after responding to a fire...whether on or off duty. It also will include MARTA police officers in the State Indemnification Fund.	Assigned to House Committee on Appropriations	The title speaks for itself.
*	HB 52	Representatives Ronald Forster of the 3 rd , David Ralston of the 7 th , Mary Oliver of the 83 rd , Judy Manning of the 32 nd , and others.	Juvenile Detention This bill would restrict the detention of juveniles. "Interim control or detention shall not be imposed on an accused child under the age of 16; instead, the child shall be released immediately to the child's parents, guardian, or other custodian upon such person's promise to bring the child before the court when requested by the court."	Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee	There are many unanswered questions that must be addressed before this bill is worthy of passage.

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*	HB 72	Representatives Burke Day of 163 rd , Billy Horne of 71 st , and Jay Neal of 1 st .	Georgia Homeland Security Act of 2007 This bill requires colleges and universities to maintain information regarding student visas and report those students who fail to enroll or attend class or who withdraw from school or who otherwise violate the terms of his or her visa.	Assigned to House Education Committee.	The Board of Regents has not officially announced their position on this legislation. Sounds good to me.
*	HB 74	Representatives Burke Day of 163 rd , Billy Horne of 71 st , and Jay Neal of 1 st .	Extraterritorial Law Enforcement Jurisdiction This bill allows municipal police to offer assistance to other law enforcement agencies, upon request, anywhere in the state. This bill would allow any officer to leave their jurisdiction and render requested assistance with the approval of his or her employing agency. The officer would have the authority to exercise the powers of arrest to the same extent as any peace officer employed by the law enforcement agency receiving such assistance.	Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee	This bill gives the authority to the employing agency; rather than, the elected officials to decide when officers may leave their jurisdiction to provide assistance to a requesting agency. NOTE: GMA does not think this legislation is needed. However, this bill is needed to clearly protect responding officers from liability concerns.
*	HB 75	Representatives Burke Day of 163 rd , Billy Horne of 71 st , and Jay Neal of 1 st .	Serious traffic offenses; felony fleeing; attempt to elude police; provisions This bill will increase the penalties for fleeing or attempting to elude a police officer.	Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee	
*	HB 77	Representatives Bobby Franklin of 43 rd , Martin Scott of 2 nd , Barry Loudermilk of 14 th , John Lunsford of 110 th , Robert Mumford of 95 th and Charlice Byrd of 20 th .	Repeal of Red Light Camera Enforcement This bill repeals the statutory authority of cities to utilize red light camera enforcement technology to improve safety at intersections.	Assigned to House Motor Vehicle Committee	NOTE: Both GMA and ACCG are opposed to this legislation. This one should die.

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*	HB 89	Representatives Timothy Bearden of 68 th , Billy Horne of 71 st and Mark Hatfield of 177 th .	Firearms possession This bill reduces some of the requirements for transporting a firearm in a private passenger motor vehicle.	Assigned to House Judiciary Non-Civil Committee	The concept is similar to that found in HB 7
*	HB 106	Representatives Ben Bridges of the 10 th and Howell Maxwell of the 17 th	Peace Officers' Annuity Benefit Fund This bill changes the calculations for benefits options. This bill requires benefits to be calculated on the interest rate and mortality basis approved from time to time by the board and by other factors.	Assigned to House Retirement Committee	
*	HB 143	Representatives Tom Graves of 12 th , Burke Day of 163 rd , Earl Ehrhart of 36 th , Willie Talton of 145 th , Rob Teihet of 40 th and Martin Scott of 2 nd .	Firearms; certain employers; locked vehicles; provisions This bill prohibit employers from prohibiting employees from lawfully carrying and possessing firearms in locked motor vehicles and provide for immunity for employers who allow employees to possess firearms in locked vehicles on the premises of such employer.	Not yet assigned to a Committee	Similar to SB 43.

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	Bill#	Author	Title and/or Summary	Status	GACP Comments
*	SB 1	Senators Eric Johnson of 1 st , Tommie Williams of 19 th , William Hambrick of 30 th , and John Wiles of 37 th .	Sexual Offenders; unlawful to photograph minors This bill makes it unlawful for persons required to register as sexual offenders to photograph a minor	Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee	The intent was to prevent sex offenders from using concealed cameras or zoom lenses to take photographs of children. However, the bill is so broad in includes a registered sex offender from taking pictures of his children at their birthday parties. Some work has to be done on this bill.
*	SB 15	Senators John Wiles of 37 th , Chip Rogers of 21 st , Jeff Mullis of 53 rd and Judson Hill of 32 nd .	Drivers' Licenses; suspended/ revoke; change certain provisions This bill requires agencies to determine the nationality of certain persons detained in detention facilities for any felony or DUI.	Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee	A burden on law enforcement agencies but may be needed.
*	SB 20	Senators Jim Judson of 32 nd and Steve Thompson of 33 rd .	Sexual Offenses; carnal knowledge with disabled person incapable of granting consent This bill makes it unlawful for any person to have carnal knowledge with a disabled person of the age of majority whom he or she knows or reasonably should know is incapable of giving consent to such activity.	Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee	This concept should have been in code years ago.
*	SB 21	Senators John Douglas of 17 th , Jim Whitehead of 24 th , Jack Murphy of 27 th , Greg Goggans of 7 th , Cecil Staton of 18 th , Ross Tolleson of 20 th and others	Murder of Peace Officer This bill relates to murder and felony murder, so as to change the punishment when the victim is a peace officer, corrections employee, or firefighter while engaged in the performance of his or her official duties. This bill would prevent anyone convicted of murdering a peace officer from being parole.	Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee	What professional law enforcement officer or reasonable person could argue with this one?

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	Bill#	Author	Title and/or Summary	Status	GACP Comments
*	SB 43	Senators Chip Rogers of 21 st , Jim Whitehead, Sr. 24 th , Tommie Williams of 19 th , Eric Johnson of 1 st , Bill Heath of 31 st and Jeff Mullis of 53 rd .	Firearms; prohibit certain employers from prohibiting employees from lawfully carrying in locked motor vehicles This bill allows an employee to transport or store a firearm in a locked motor vehicle in any parking lot, parking garage, or other employee parking area.	Not yet assigned to a Committee	Similar to HB 143.