



**Georgia Bio Legislative Report
February 15, 2019
Days 12-16 of 40 Day Session**

GENERAL UPDATE:

The General Assembly met this week for days 12-16. Please [click here](#) for a copy of the adjournment resolution.

GEORGIA BIO LEGISLATIVE ACTION

This week the Georgia Bio Legislative Affairs Committee voted to **SUPPORT** HB 63. The step therapy bill passed out of the Insurance Committee on February 13th and was passed/adopted by the Georgia House of Representatives on February 15th. The bill is now headed to the Senate for consideration.

Bill Watch

[HB 63 - Insurance; Health Benefit Plans to Establish Step Therapy Protocols](#)

Bill Author: Rep. Sharon Cooper (R - Marietta)

Bill Status: Insurance

Summary: HB 63 is the same bill from the 2018 session and is a compromise from all parties involved and establishes a process for when it is medically appropriate to override a step therapy protocol for patients.

Importance: **SUPPORT**

[SB 106 - "Patients First Act"](#)

Bill Author: Senator Blake Tillery (R - Vidalia)

Summary: Governor Kemp set aside \$1 million in the state health department's budget to develop a waiver that would drive competition and improve quality while encouraging innovation. SB 106 "Patients First Act" was introduced this week to authorize the Department of Community Health to submit a Section 1115 waiver request to the United States Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The Patients First Act is a step toward lowering insurance premiums, enhancing access to quality care, and improving health outcomes in every part of our state.

Importance: **Monitoring**

GEORGIA BIO LEGISLATIVE TRACKING SHEET

Georgia Bio will provide updates on specific legislation of interest to the Georgia Bio membership. If you have bills that you would like included in the weekly bill update, please email jsantoro@gabio.org.

Legislative Tracking Sheet

GABIO POLICY & ADVOCACY COMM. MEETINGS/CALL SCHEDULE FOR 2019 GA LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Thurs. Jan. 17th at 10am

Mon. Jan. 28th at 11am

Mon. Feb. 11 at 11am

Mon. Feb. 25 at 11am

Mon. Mar. 11th at 11am

Mon. Mar. 25th at 11am

If you would like to participate on a Georgia Bio Policy Committee call, please contact jsantoro@gabio.org.