

Press Coverage | March 31, 2023

New Laws for Courts, Attys, Workers on Ga. Gov.'s Desk

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Robb Willis, chair of Troutman Pepper Strategies, and Nicole Goshorn, legislative analyst in Troutman Pepper Strategies, were quoted in the March 31, 2023 *Law360* article, "New Laws for Courts, Attys, Workers on Ga. Gov.'s Desk."

Robb Willis, chair of Troutman Pepper Strategies in Atlanta, said the bill provides support to the business community, although it is a watered down version of what many corporations would prefer.

"That was a good first step, I think," he said. "It was a negotiation."

Willis of Troutman Pepper Strategies said there wasn't much opposition to the bill, which seems to be about prioritizing resources.

Nicole Goshorn of Troutman Pepper Strategies in Atlanta said more discussion about the participation of utility companies in the electric vehicle market is likely to resurface in the state's next legislative session.

"I think they are thinking in the right direction about how to collect revenue and supply funding for [the Georgia Department of Transportation] with the loss of motor fuel sales taxes as electric vehicles become more prominent," Goshorn said.

Willis said some electric vehicle charging stations in Georgia are owned by power companies, but they tend to be in areas where retailers and other businesses don't provide them.

"They're kind of going to where the need is," he said. "They're not trying to raid the market or elbow anybody out as much as they're trying to fill some holes in the grid, if you will."

Goshorn of Troutman Pepper Strategies said the bill seemed to fly through the approval process as commonsense legislation.

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Goshorn said the proposal didn't receive as much opposition this session as she thought it would.

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