

2006 Senate Transportation Committee Members

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Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

January 25, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on January 25, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Pearson of the 51st, Douglas of the 17th, Heath of the 31st, Reed of the 35th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, Thompson of the 33rd, and Williams of the 19th.

Chairman Stephens recognized himself as the new Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee and welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the 2006 legislative session. The adoption of the Committee Rules was the first order of business. Chairman Stephens stated that there were no changes and asked for a motion to adopt the Rules. Sen. Whitehead moved that the Committee accept the Rules, and with a second from Sen. Staton, the motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Stephens introduced Deputy Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation, Larry Dent to give an overview of **Public Private Initiatives**.

Commissioner Dent explained that Public Private Initiatives (PPIs) allow the DOT to accept and evaluate two types of proposals. The Unsolicited PPI allows a private company to submit a proposal to the DOT with their ideas for design, funding, construction, and/or maintenance of a transportation improvement. The Solicited PPI allows the DOT to solicit for a PPI through a Request for Proposals (RFP). The overview highlighted the potential for toll lanes across the metro interstate system, including HOV, HOT and TOT lanes.

The Chairman then recognized Rick Fitzgerald of Goldman-Sachs who gave a presentation on **Extracting Private Equity through Public-Private Participation Agreements**. Mr. Fitzgerald explained public/private initiatives in other states, and the types of funding currently being used for these projects.

[SR 686](#) (Schaefer of the 50th) J. Alton Wingate, Sr., Memorial Parkway; designate

Sen. Schaefer explained this resolution recognizes J. Alton Wingate, Sr., who was a banking pioneer and outstanding leader in the banking industry in the state of Georgia who died August 16, 2005. This resolution designated the portion of US 441 from its intersection with SR 365 in Habersham County to its intersection with Sample Scales

Road in Banks County be designated as the J. Alton Wingate, Sr., Memorial Parkway. The DOT is authorized and directed to place and maintain appropriate markers designating the highway. Sen. Reed moved, and Sen. Staton seconded that **SR 686 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

February 1, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on February 1, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Pearson of the 51st, Douglas of the 17th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, Thompson of the 33rd, and Williams of the 19th.

Chairman Stephens introduced Ted Turner, COO, PCIDS, and Tad Leithead, Co-Chair, CID Alliance, to give a brief presentation on the benefits of **Community Improvement Districts (CID) and CID Alliances**.

SR 639(Seabaugh of the 28th)**A RESOLUTION dedicating the SGT Mike Stokely Memorial Highway**

Sen. Mitch Seabaugh presented SR 639, which designates the *Sergeant Mike Stokely Memorial Highway* in Fayette County. Sen. Thompson moved, and Sen. Douglas seconded that **SR 639 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 718 (Henson of the 41st)**A RESOLUTION honoring the life and accomplishments of Stephen J. Schmidt, Sr., and dedicating the Stephen J. Schmidt, Sr., Memorial Highway; and for other purposes.**

Sen. Steve Henson presented SR 718, which dedicates the *Stephen J. Schmidt, Sr. Memorial Highway* in DeKalb County. Sen. Seay moved, and Sen. Douglas seconded that **SR 718 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1041(Davis of the 109th) **A RESOLUTION honoring the accomplishments of J. T. Williams and dedicating the J. T. Williams Honorary Bridge; and for other purposes.**

Representatives Steve Davis and Barry Loudermilk presented the Substitute to HR 1041, which combined four road-naming resolutions that dedicates the J. T. Williams Honorary Bridge in Henry County. Sen. Douglas moved, and Sen. Thompson seconded that **HR 1041 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SB 431(Whitehead of the 24th) Public Road System; utility fails to remove/relocate facility; responsible to Dept. of Transportation for failure to comply

Vice-Chairman Jim Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th and DOT Deputy Commissioner Larry Dent presented the bill which would give DOT the authority to order the removal and relocation of public utilities in a timely manner or be charged with a failure to comply. A Committee Substitute to SB 431 was offered that would authorize the DOT to order the removal and relocation of a utility facility that occupies any part of the public road system. The bill would give the DOT the right to suspend contractors' work permits if they failed to handle utilities work on a public road project in a timely fashion. Representatives from Georgia Power, Bellsouth, and AGL, spoke against the bill.

Chairman Stephens **assigned SB 431 to a Sub-committee** to be chaired by Sen. Whitehead. Members in the subcommittee include Sen. Seabaugh, Sen. Thompson, and Sen. Heath.

SB 453 (Kemp of the 46th) Biodiesel Fuels; require use by certain vehicles operated by local school districts; local governments

Sen. Brian Kemp of the 46th presented SB 453, which would require that at least two percent of all fuel purchased annually by local school districts be biodiesel fuel by January 1, 2010. Sen. Kemp also introduced an amendment to the bill that specifies if the cost of biodiesel fuel exceeds 105 percent of the cost of conventional fuels, school systems may continue to purchase conventional fuel. Representatives of the Georgia Petroleum Council and the Georgia Oilmen's Association spoke against the bill, expressing concerns about the current quality and limited availability of biodiesel fuels. Others spoke in favor of the bill, including representatives of University of Georgia's Agriculture program and U.S. Biofuels of Rome.

Sen. Williams moved, and Sen. Staton seconded that **SB 453 Do Pass as Amended**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 3:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

February 15, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on February 15, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Pearson of the 51st, Douglas of the 17th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, and Zamarripa of the 36th.

SB 431(Whitehead of the 24th) Public Road System; utility fails to remove/relocate facility; responsible to Dept. of Transportation for failure to comply

Sen. Jim Whitehead stated that the subcommittee on SB 431 has met with representatives of several utility companies, but will hold another meeting to perfect the legislation, which aims to expedite the completion of public road projects. No further action was taken during this committee meeting.

SR 864 (Douglas of the 17th) SGT Mike Stokely Memorial Highway; dedicating

Sen. John Douglas presented SR 864, which dedicates a portion of State Route 81 in Walton County as the *Sergeant Mike Stokely Memorial Highway*. Sen. Seabaugh moved, and Sen. Seay seconded that **SR 864 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

February 22, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on February 15, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Vice-Chairman Whitehead called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Members present included Senators Pearson of the 51st, Douglas of the 17th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, and Thompson of the 33rd.

HB 294 (Miller of the 106th) Speed monitoring devices; photographic systems; provisions

Vice Chairman Whitehead called the Committee to order for a public hearing on HB 294. Sen. Don Balfour of the 9th and Rep. Melvin Everson of the 106th presented the Committee Substitute to HB 294, which would allow a county or municipality to use a photographic speed-measuring system in school zones during normal school hours. Proposed fines for speeding in a school zone would be no more than \$100. Representatives from Snellville and Gwinnett County Police, and the Governor's Office of Highway Safety spoke in favor of the bill.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stephens at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

February 28, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on February 28, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Pearson of the 51st, Chapman of the 3rd, Douglas of the 17th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Thompson of the 33rd, and Zamarripa of the 36th.

SR 433 (Tolleson of the 20th) A RESOLUTION dedicating a portion of US Highway 441 within the corporate limits of the City of McRae in honor of Mayor Johnny Bradfield; and for other purposes.

Sen. Ross Tolleson presented SR 433, which designates the *Mayor Johnny Bradfield Highway* in Telfair County. Sen. Seabaugh moved, and Sen. Whitehead seconded that **SR 433 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 434 (Tolleson of the 20th) A RESOLUTION dedicating a portion of US Highway 341 within the corporate limits of the City of McRae as Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.; and for other purposes.

Sen. Ross Tolleson presented SR 434, which designates *Martin Luther King, Jr., Blvd.* in Telfair County. Sen. Seabaugh moved and, Sen. Thompson seconded that **SR 434 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 294 (Miller of the 106th) Speed monitoring devices; photographic systems; provisions

Sen. Don Balfour of the 9th and Rep. Melvin Everson of the 106th appeared again before the Committee to present HB 294, which was heard during the last meeting. Sen. Balfour stated there were no significant changes to the bill since the last meeting. Sen. Thompson moved, and Sen. Whitehead seconded that **HB 294 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 848 (Wiles of the 37th) A RESOLUTION honoring the life and service of Airman First Class Antoine J. Holt and dedicating the Antoine J. Holt Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.

Sen. John Wiles presented SR 848, honoring the life and service of Airman First Class Antoine J. Holt and dedicating the **Antoine J. Holt Memorial Bridge**. Sen. Douglas moved, Sen. Goggans seconded **SR 848 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 849 (Wiles of the 37th) **A RESOLUTION honoring the life and service of Kimberly Boyd and dedicating the Kimberly Boyd Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.**

Sen. Wiles presented SR 849, which would designate the *Kimberly Boyd Memorial Bridge*. Mike Boyd then spoke to the Committee, saying the dedication would be a great honor to his wife Kimberly, who was abducted and killed last year. Sen. Thompson moved, and Sen. Seay seconded **SR 849 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 954 (Geisinger of the 48th) **Public transportation; sale or exchange of tokens, transfers, transaction cards, or tickets without consent, repeal prohibition**

Sen. John Wiles and Rep. Harry Geisinger of the 48th presented HB 954, which repeals the prohibition of the sale or exchange of public transportation tokens, transfers, transaction cards or tickets without consent. A representative of MARTA spoke in favor of the bill. Sen. Douglas moved, and Sen. Williams seconded that **HB 954 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1190 (Wilkinson of the 52nd) **State Road and Tollway Authority; collection of unpaid tolls; amend**

Sen. Judson Hill of the 32nd and Rep. Joe Wilkinson presented the Committee Substitute to HB 1190, which will improve the ability of the State Road and Tollway Authority to pursue those who repeatedly violate toll requirements. Sen. Thompson moved, Sen. Seay seconded **HB 1190 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried with Sen. Pearson and Sen. Goggans voting no. HB 1190 passed by a vote of 10 to 2.

HB 1106 (Graves of the 12th) **Weight of vehicle and load; hauling of construction aggregates; include**

Sen. Bill Heath and Rep. Tom Graves of the 12th presented HB 1106, which changes the weight of vehicle and load requirements for those hauling construction aggregates such as gravel or dirt. Sen. Chapman moved, and Sen. Goggans seconded **HB 1106 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stephens at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

March 7, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on March 7, 2006 in Room 450 of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Pearson of the 51st, Chapman of the 3rd, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Reed of the 35th, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, Williams of the 19th and Zamarripa of the 36th.

SR 126 (Thomas of the 54^t) A RESOLUTION honoring the memory of Clint H. Bryant and designating the bridge by which SR 2 crosses over the Conasauga River at Beavertdale as the Clint H. Bryant Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.

On behalf of Sen. Don Thomas of the 54th, Sen. Stephens presented SR 126, which designates the *Clint H. Bryant Memorial Bridge* in Murray County. Sen. Whitehead moved, and Sen. Staton seconded that **SR 126 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 374 (Schaefer of the 50th) A RESOLUTION commending Roger Caudell and dedicating the "Roger Caudell Highway"; and for other purposes.

Sen. Nancy Schaefer of the 50th presented an amended SR 374, designating the portion of SR 365 extending east from the Jamieson Intersection to Lake Hartwell at the South Carolina boundary as the *Roger Caudell Highway*. Sen. Heath moved, and Sen. Pearson seconded that **SR 374 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 1034 (Goggans of the 7th) A RESOLUTION celebrating the life of SGT Mathew Vincent Gibbs and dedicating the SGT Mathew Vincent Gibbs Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.

Sen. Greg Goggans presented SR 1034, which designates the 17 Mile River Bridge at mile marker 7 on SR 206 as the *Sergeant Matthew Vincent Gibbs Memorial Bridge* in Coffee County. Sen. Seay moved, and Sen. Whitehead seconded that **SR 1034 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 873 (Stoner of the 6th) A RESOLUTION commending the accomplishments of Emory Parrish and dedicating the Emory Parrish Interchange; and for other purposes.

Sen. Doug Stoner of the 6th presented SR 873, which designates the interchange of routes I-75 and I-285 in Cobb County as the *Emory Parrish Interchange*. Sen. Seay moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **SR 873 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 1028 (Thompson of the 33rd) A RESOLUTION honoring the life of Dr. Luke Glenn Garrett, Jr., and dedicating the Dr. Luke Glenn Garrett, Jr. Memorial Highway in his memory; and for other purposes.

On behalf of Sen. Steve Thompson, Sen. Valencia Seay presented SR 1028, designating the portion of SR 6 Spur, formerly known as Westside Drive, fronting the Norfolk Southern rail facility, in Cobb County, as the *Dr. Luke Glenn Garrett, Jr. Memorial Highway*. Sen. Whitehead moved, and Sen. Staton seconded that **SR 1028 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 1093 (Grant of the 25th) A RESOLUTION celebrating the life of Durward D. (Red) Murphy and dedicating the Durward D. (Red) Murphy Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.

Sen. Johnny Grant of the 25th presented SR 1093, which designates the bridge on SR 112 where it crosses Fishing Creek as the *Durward D. (Red) Murphy Memorial Bridge* in Baldwin County. Sen. Staton moved and Sen. Reed seconded that **SR 1093 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SR 1094 (Grant of the 25th)A RESOLUTION celebrating the life of Charles S. (Buddy) Cowan, Jr., and dedicating the Charles S. (Buddy) Cowan, Jr. Memorial Bridge; and for other purposes.

Sen. Grant then presented SR 1094, designating the bridge on SR 22 where it crosses Watson Creek in Baldwin County as the *Charles S. (Buddy) Cowan, Jr. Memorial Bridge*. Sen. Reed moved, and Sen. Seay seconded that **SR 1094 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SB 431 (Whitehead of the 24th) Public Road System; utility fails to remove/relocate facility; responsible to Dept. of Transportation for failure to comply

Sen. Jim Whitehead, Sr. presented a Subcommittee Substitute to SB 431, which authorizes the Department of Transportation to order the removal and relocation of utility facilities occupying any part of the public road system. A representative from the Georgia Department of Transportation spoke in favor of the legislation. Sen. Staton moved, and Sen. Heath seconded that **SB 431 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

SB 578 (Whitehead of the 24th) Commercial Waste Tank Truck; rules/regulations of Dept. of Human Resources

Sen. Whitehead presented SB 578, which provides that commercial waste tank truck receiving or disposing of commercial waste may be inspected and permitted annually by the Department of Human Resources. Bruce Widener of the Georgia Onsite Wastewater

Association spoke in favor of the legislation. Sen. Heath moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **SB 578 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

SB 483 (Seay of the 34th) Public Roads; Dept. of Transportation conduct study of each county; identify road

Sen. Seay presented SB 483, which requires the DOT to conduct a statewide synchronized traffic signals study. The Committee heard from Todd Long, a traffic engineer with DOT, about the feasibility of the study. Sen. Kasim Reed proposed an amendment to limit the study to the 13-county area surrounding Atlanta. Sen. Seabaugh suggested that limiting the study to the 13 counties would still be too much. Chairman Stephens suspended discussion on the bill, so Senators Reed, Seabaugh and Seay could discuss the bill further. The Committee resumed discussion on *SB 483*, and Sen. Reed proposed an amendment that limited the study to the 10-county region as defined by the Atlanta Regional Commission. Chairman Stephens then asked for a motion. Sen. Reed moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **SB 483 Do Pass By Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

SB 636 (Bulloch of the 11th) Biodiesel Fuel; define term

Sen. John Bulloch of the 11th presented SB 636, which defines biodiesel fuel as a fuel comprised of mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from vegetable oils or animal fats. Pam Davidson, representing ABI Fuels, spoke in favor of the bill. Sen. Chapman moved, and Sen. Whitehead seconded that **SB 636 Do Pass By Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stephens at 3:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

March 16, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on March 16, 2006 in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Chapman of the 3rd, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, and Staton of the 18th.

HR 1169 (Bearden of the 68th) A RESOLUTION dedicating the "Colonel R. H. Burson Bridge"; and for other purposes

Rep. Timothy Bearden presented HR 1169 which designates the bridge on U.S. Highway 78 at Mirror Lake in Douglas County as the *Colonel R. H. Burson Bridge*. Sen. Whitehead moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **HR 1169 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1661 (Hatfield of the 177th) Hershel Stokes Memorial Overpass; dedicate

Rep. Mark Hatfield presented this resolution, sponsored by Sen. Bill Stephens in the Senate, which designates the overpass bridge on SR23/SR121 located near their junction with US 1/US 23, in the City of Folkston, in Charlton County, as the *Herschel Stokes Memorial Overpass*. Sen. Goggans moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **HR 1661 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1090 (Harbin of the 118th) Public works; exercise of power to contract by Department of Transportation; amend

On behalf of Rep. Ben Harbin, Sen. Jim Whitehead presented HB 1090 regarding penalties for contractors behind more than 25 % in the performance of two or more of any state public works construction contracts or DOT construction or maintenance contracts. These penalties are given based on a determination that the delay is due to the fault of the contractor. The contractor will not be eligible to bid on any additional state contracts until the other projects are brought current or completed. Steve Parks of the Georgia Highway Contractors Association spoke in favor of the bill. Sen. Heath moved, and Sen. Goggans seconded that **HB 1090 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1275 (Smith of the 129th) Commercial driver's license; violation; provide for revocation

Rep. Vance Smith presented HB 1275, sponsored by Sen. Whitehead in the Senate, which provides that a person involved in a criminal act relating to the transportation of

commercial goods will, if applicable, face revocation of their commercial driver's license. Craig Camuso, representing CSX, spoke in favor of the bill. Sen. Goggans moved, and Sen. Chapman seconded that **HB 1275 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1491 (Sims of the 169th) Private James Boggan Memorial Bridge; name

Rep. Chuck Sims of the 169th presented HR 1491, sponsored by Sen. Greg Goggans in the Senate who offered a bill substitute, which designated the following multiple dedications:

- The bridge on Bay Street between East Lathorpe Street and Farm Street in Chatham County is dedicated as the *Dorothy Barnes Pelote Bridge*;
- The portion of SR 32 from the 206 Connector to the CSX Railroad overpass is dedicated as the *Derward F. Buchan Corridor*;
- The bridge over Deep Creek on SR 107 at Mile Post 8 in Turner County is dedicated as the *Tommy G. Hudson Bridge*;
- The bridge on SR 206 Connector that spans the CSX railroad, in Coffee County, is dedicated as the *Hero Bridge*;
- The portion of US 80 from the end of Lazaretto River to the end of US 80 on Tybee Island, in Chatham County, is dedicated as the *Historic Tybee Lighthouse Causeway*;
- The bridge over Grand Bay Creek on US Highway 221 in the Lanier County is dedicated as the *Lucille M. Norton Bridge*;
- The Bear Creek Bridge on Highway 32 West in the town of Ambrose is dedicated as the *Private James Boggan Memorial Bridge*;
- The Prestley Mill Road bridge over I-20, in Douglas County, is dedicated as the *Tom Kilgore Memorial Bridge*;
- The portion of Georgia Loop 1 from SR 53 to US 411/SR20 is dedicated as *Veterans Memorial Highway*;

Sen. Goggans moved, and Sen. Seabaugh seconded that **HR 1491 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1190 (Wilkinson of the 52nd) State Road and Tollway Authority; collection of unpaid tolls; amend

Sen. Judson Hill of the 32nd presented HB 1190, authored by Rep. Wilkinson in the House, which would modify and clarify the processes by which collection of unpaid tolls are accomplished, and alter the fees and penalties which may be assessed for failure to pay the proper toll. Sen. Whithead moved, and Sen. Seabaugh seconded that **HB 1190 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 654 (Reese of the 98th) All-terrain vehicles; additional definitions; provisions

which provides a definition of All-Terrain Vehicles (ATVs). In the past five years, a new model of ATVs has been commercially developed. These ATVs differ from traditional ATVs in that they have steering wheels versus handlebars, bench seats versus step-over seats, and a truck style “bed” versus a rack. This legislation provides definitions for each. Sen. Seay moved, and Sen. Seabaugh seconded that **HB 654 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1106 (Graves of the 12th) Weight of vehicle and load; hauling of construction aggregates; include

Sen. Bill Heath of the 31st presented HB 1106, authored by Rep. Tom Graves in the House, which would amend the code to allow that construction aggregates can be hauled for further processing from the quarry or stockpile area to a processing plant located in the same or an adjoining county. Sen. Seabaugh moved, and Sen. Seay seconded that **HB 1106 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stephens at 2:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Transportation Committee

March 23, 2006

A meeting of the Senate Transportation Committee was held on March 23, 2006 in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. Chairman Stephens called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Members present included Senators Whitehead of the 24th, Chapman of the 3rd, Douglas of the 17th, Goggans of the 7th, Heath of the 31st, Seabaugh of the 28th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, Thompson of the 33rd, Williams of the 19th, and Zamarripa of the 36th.

HR 413 (Hanner of the 148th) Warren V. Johnson Bridge; designate

Rep. Bob Hanner presented HR 413, sponsored by Sen. George Hooks of the 14th in the Senate, which included the following multiple dedications:

- Designates the bridge on SR 45 that spans the Kinchafoone Creek in Webster County as the *Warren V. Johnson Bridge*
- The bridge on Chula Brookfield Road over Interstate Highway 75 in Turner County as the *Harry H. Eason Bridge*
- The portion of Georgia Highway 180 in Union County from the intersection with US Highway 129 to the Towns County line as the *Micajah Clark Dyer Parkway*

Sen. Staton moved, and Sen. Thompson seconded **HR 413 Do Pass By Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1109 (Jamieson of the 28th) Samuel Ernest Vandiver, Jr. Interchange; dedicate

Sen. Nancy Schaefer of the 50th presented HR 1109 on behalf of Rep. Jeanette Jamieson which designates the interchange located at I-85 Exit No. 173 in the City of Lavonia and Franklin County as the *Samuel Ernest Vandiver, Jr., Interchange* in honor of the late former Governor. Sen. Thompson moved, and Sen. Zamarripa seconded that **HR 1109 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1302 (Jacobs of the 80th) Stephen J. Schmidt, Sr. Memorial Highway; dedicate

Sen. Steve Henson of the 41st presented HR 1302 on behalf of Rep. Mike Jacobs which included the following multiple dedications:

- The portion of SR 141 from its intersection with Hermance Drive to its intersection with Lanier Drive in DeKalb County as the *Stephen J. Schmidt Sr., Memorial Highway*

- The Leesburg US Highway 19 Bypass as the *James M. Cannon, Sr., Memorial Bypass*
- The interchange at Dean's Bridge Road and the Bobby Jones Expressway (I-520) in Augusta/Richmond County as the *Henry L. Howard Memorial Interchange*
- The interchange of I-95 and US Highway 341 in Glynn County as the *Ted McKenzie Interchange*
- The portion of State Road 97 in Decatur County from the US Highway 84 bypass southward to the Florida state line as the *Jack Wingate Highway*

Sen. Williams moved, and Sen. Thompson seconded that **HR 1302 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HR 1548 (Rynders of the 152nd) Chambers Crossing; dedicate

Sen. Joseph Carter of the 13th and Sen. Cecil Staton presented HR 1548 on behalf of Representatives Rynders and Hanner, with a substitute allowing the following multiple dedications:

- The intersection of US Route 19 with Century Road in Lee County as *Chambers Crossing*
- The bridge on SR 18 across Elkins Creek in the town of Zebulon as the *James G. Crayton, Sr., Memorial Bridge*

Sen. Douglas moved, and Sen. Thompson seconded that **HR 1548 Do Pass**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1177 (Smith of the 129th) Department of Transportation; certain projects; bonding amounts; provisions

Sen. Chip Pearson presented HB 1177 with a substitute on behalf of Rep. Vance Smith as legislation that would require performance and payment bonds on DOT construction contracts exceeding \$300 million. The bill gives the State Transportation Board the discretion to determine the amount of the value of the construction portion. Sen. Thompson had concerns about giving the Board this discretion. Sen. Zamarripa moved, and Sen. Williams seconded that **HB 1177 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1412 (Smith of the 168th) Certain government vehicles; clean and renewable fuels; require use

Sen. Brian Kemp of the 46th presented HB 1412 with a substitute on behalf of Rep. Tommy Smith as legislation that would amend the current Code provisions relating to

education, local and state government to encourage the use of Clean Renewable Fuels. Beginning January 7, 2007, each local school district, county and municipal corporation, and state entity or agency is encouraged to use clean, renewable fuel in any gasoline or diesel motor vehicle or equipment that it operates whenever such fuel is technologically compatible and reasonably available at a cost similar to that of conventional fuel. Three types of alternative fuels are addressed in the bill:

- Biodiesel Blend, which is defined as blended fuel containing petroleum diesel fuel with a minimum level of 2 percent biodiesel fuel.
- Biodiesel Fuel defined as being a fuel composed of mono-alkyl esters of long chain fatty acids derived from wood, crops, agricultural waste, and animal fats.
- Ethanol blend, which is fuel containing a minimum level of 5% ethanol.

Sen. Douglas had some questions which led to the discussion of the value of utilizing biodiesel fuel. Senators Whitehead and Thompson spoke in favor of the bill. Sen. Heath moved, and Sen. Seay seconded that **HB 1412 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

HB 1097 (McCall of the 30th) Outdoor advertising signs; restriction; amend

Sen. Bill Heath and Rep. Tom McCall presented HB 1097 with a substitute as legislation that would ban outdoor advertising signs that advertise the availability of adult entertainment, such as live performances by nude and semi-nude dancers. They also added that after July 1, 2006, no sign may be erected with more than one face vertically stacked visible from the same direction on the main traveled way. Non mechanical illuminated electronic multiple message signs are permitted if they do not interfere with the operation of motor vehicles. The bill gives sign owners 180 days from the date the bill is signed into law to bring the sign into compliance. Sen. Seay and Sen. Thompson expressed concerns regarding the removal of trees and the appraisal value of the trees. Joan Brown and Rachel Fowler, representatives from the Garden Club, spoke against the bill. Glenn Dowling of the Georgia Wildlife Federation supported the Garden Club's views and also spoke against the bill. Neil Herrin from GA Chapter of the Sierra Club spoke against the bill, adding that he would like to see the term "mechanical sign" stricken from the language of the bill. Sen. Heath moved, and Sen. Pearson seconded that **HB 1097 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried with Sen. Seay and Sen. Thompson voting no. HB 1097 passed by a vote 8 to 2.

HB 955 (Geisinger of the 48th) MARTA; public records relating to fare payment system; exempt from disclosure; provide

Rep. Harry Geisinger presented HB 955 with a substitute, sponsored by Sen. John Wiles of the 37th in the Senate, as legislation that exempts from public disclosure the MARTA records which would reveal the financial history or travel records of any purchaser of a

TransCard, SmartCard, or similar fee medium. Sen. Thompson moved, and Sen. Seay seconded that **HB 955 Do Pass by Substitute**; motion carried unanimously.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chairman Stephens at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Chip Pearson, Secretary

/s/ Laurie Sparks, Recording Secretary

May 12, 2006

Honorable Bob Ewing
Secretary of the Senate
State Capitol
Room 353
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Mr. Ewing:

Along with the minutes of the **Senate Transportation Committee**, I am returning the following Bills and Resolutions:

[HR 200](#)

[SB 266](#)

[SB 335](#)

[SB 635](#)

[SR 347](#)

[SR 429](#)

[SR 680](#)

[SR 1064](#)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Laurie Sparks
Recording Secretary
Senate Transportation Committee