

2007 Senate Appropriations Members

Honorable Jack Hill, Chairman
Senate District 4
P.O. Box 486
Reidsville, GA 30453

234 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Greg Goggans, Vice Chair
Senate District 7
1300 Hampton Road
Douglas, GA 31533

303-A CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Tim Golden, Secretary
Senate District 8
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Valdosta, GA 31602

121-A State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Don Balfour
Senate District 9
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Snellville, GA 30078

453 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable John Bulloch
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Ochlocknee, GA 31773

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Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Bill Cowsert
Senate District 46
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319-A CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Vincent D. Fort
Senate District 39
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Atlanta, GA 30311

305-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Johnny Grant
Senate District 25
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Honorable Bill Hamrick
Senate District 30
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121-H State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Seth Harp
Senate District 29
P.O. Box 363
Midland, GA 31820

121-D State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Bill Heath
Senate District 31
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Bremen, GA 30110-3504

109 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Steve Henson
Senate District 41
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121-J State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable George Hooks
Senate District 14
P.O. Box 928
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431 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Eric Johnson
Senate District 1
128 Baymeadow Point
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321 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Michael S. Meyer Von Bremen
Senate District 12
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121-F State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Dan Moody
Senate District 56
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421-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Jeff Mullis
Senate District 53
212 English Avenue
Chickamauga, GA 30707

421-A State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Jack Murphy
Senate District 27
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Honorable Chip Pearson
Senate District 51
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321-B CLOB
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Honorable Nancy Schaefer
Senate District 50
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302-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Mitch Seabaugh
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421-D State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Valencia Seay
Senate District 34
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420-B State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Preston W. Smith
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301-A CLOB
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Honorable Cecil Staton (Ex-Officio)
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303-B CLOB
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Honorable Horacena Tate
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110-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Don Thomas
Senate District 54
184 Haig Mill Rd.
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121-G State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Regina Thomas
Senate District 2
1406 E. 35th Street
Savannah, GA 31404-2918

313-A CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Steve Thompson
Senate District 33
1170 Longwood Drive
Marietta, GA 30008

420-A State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Ross Tolleson
Senate District 20
P.O. Box 1356
Perry, GA 31069

121-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Renee Unterman
Senate District 45
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Buford, GA 30518

421-B State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Senator John Wiles (Ex-Officio)
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324-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Honorable Tommie Williams
Senate District 19
148 Williams Avenue
Lyons, GA 30436

236 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

**2007 RULES OF THE
SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

1. The quorum of the Committee shall be sixteen (16) members.
2. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chairman shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to Subcommittees for study. Such Subcommittees in turn shall have the authority to make recommendations on such measures to the full Committee.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
5. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report.
6. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
7. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator designated by the author.

January 17, 2007

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Wednesday, January 17, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. for the 2007 Session Joint Budget Briefings. Members present from the Senate are shown on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Opening remarks were offered by Senator Hill and Representative Ben Harbin, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

Governor Sonny Perdue spoke before the Joint Appropriations Committees presenting them with a brief overview of his recommendations for the S.F.Y. 2007 Amended General and S.F.Y. 2008 General Budgets.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2007 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 94](#)) and S.F.Y. 2008 General Budget ([H.B. 95](#)).

1. Bart L. Graham, Commissioner – Dept. of Revenue
2. Dr. Kenneth Heaghey, State Fiscal Economist – Economic Outlook and Revenue Estimating
3. Dr. Erroll Davis, Chancellor – Board of Regents (University System of Georgia)
4. Ron Jackson, Interim Commissioner – Dept. of Technical and Adult Education
5. Kathy Cox, State School Superintendent – Dept. of Education
6. Dr. Rhonda Medows, Commissioner – Dept. of Community Health

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Wednesday, January 17, 2007

Meeting: Joint Senate/House Appropriations Budget Briefings

FY 2007 Amended Budget – (H.B. 94)

FY 2008 General Budget – (H.B. 95)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

January 18, 2007

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Thursday, January 18, 2007, in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. for the 2007 Session Joint Budget Briefings. Members present from the Senate are shown on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Representative Ben Harbin, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee. Opening remarks were offered by Representative Harbin and Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2007 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 94](#)) and S.F.Y. 2008 General Budget ([H.B. 95](#)).

1. Noel Holcomb, Commissioner – Dept. of Natural Resources
2. Dr. Carol Couch, Director – Environmental Protection Division
3. B. J. Walker, Commissioner – Dept. of Human Resources
4. Robert Morris, Director of External Affairs – Georgia Ports Authority
5. Harold Linnenkohl, Commissioner – Dept. of Transportation
6. Steve Stancil, Director – Georgia Regional Transportation Authority
7. Rosa Roundtree, Executive Director – State Road and Tollway Authority
8. Albert Murray, Commissioner – Dept. of Juvenile Justice
9. James Donald, Commissioner – Dept. of Corrections
10. Garland Hunt, Chairman – Board of Pardons and Paroles
11. Col. Bill Hitchins, Commissioner – Dept. of Public Safety
12. Judge William Boyette, President - Council of Superior Court Judges
13. Steve Kelly, D.A., Brunswick – Prosecuting Attorneys' Council
14. Michael Mears, Exec. Director - Ga. Public Defender Standards Council
15. Wrap up – Shelley Nickel, Director – Office of Planning and Budget

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Thursday, January 18, 2007

Meeting: Joint Senate/House Appropriations Budget Briefings

FY 2007 Amended Budget – (H.B. 94)

FY 2008 General Budget – (H.B. 95)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

January 31, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, January 31, 2007, in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 3:00 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

The Committee convened to hear a presentation by Dr. Rajeev Dhawan, Director of the Georgia State University Economic Forecasting Center and Mr. John C. Robertson, Vice President and Senior Economist at the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta. The focus of the meeting was to present Committee members with an update on Georgia's economic outlook for the upcoming year through studies on employment trends and consumption habits through products and services being purchased. The meeting also focused on how Georgia's economy compared with other southeastern states.

The meeting concluded after a brief discussion and questions session by Committee members.

Any documents offered in support of the testimony given can be found in Committee files. There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
Update on the Economic Outlook

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

February 21, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, February 21, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 2:00 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

Adoption of 2007 Senate Appropriations Committee Rules – A motion was made “**Do pass**” by Bulloch of the 11th, seconded by Moody of the 56th, passed by unanimous vote.

S.B. 29 by Staton of the 18th and others - Budget/Financial Affairs; creation of website which the public can view the state budget

This bill requires the Office of Planning and Budget to establish an internet website that would allow the general public to access and view the General Appropriations Act for each fiscal year beginning with the 2008 General Appropriations Act. A substitute to S.B. 29 was offered which adds the Amended General Appropriations Act to the language of the bill.

A Fiscal Note prepared by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts was provided to Committee members on the monetary impact of this bill in its first year of implementation and the approximate cost annually thereafter. This document can be obtained in Committee files.

Senator Staton of the 18th, author of the bill, presented the bill along with the substitute to the Committee and answered any questions.

A motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd, that **S.B. 29**, “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Wiles of the 37th. Unanimous vote.

S.B. 12 by Shafer of the 48th and others – Budget Act; periodic application of zero-base budgeting; analysis of departmental/program objectives

This Substitute to S.B.12 requires that beginning with the 2008 budget report, prepared by the Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget and presented to the General Assembly, the report must incorporate zero-base budgeting procedures. It is the intent of this code section that in any given year, the budget report shall include zero-base budgeting for no less than one

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February 21, 2007

quarter of all state programs in the most recently passed General Appropriations Act. The Governor's Office of Planning and Budget shall determine which shall submit these recommendations in each year, except that no program shall use zero-base budgeting more often than once every four years.

The Substitute to S.B. 12 also eliminates language in the original bill referring to the Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee which now stands abolished.

Senator Shafer of the 48th, author of the bill, presented it to the Committee and explained the differences of the substitute. Chairman Hill of the 4th, also discussed zero-base budgeting and program-base budgeting with the Committee.

After a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Williams of the 19th that **S.B. 12, "Do pass by substitute"**, seconded by Mullis of the 53rd. The bill passed by unanimous vote.

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Wednesday, February 21, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[SB12](#), [SB 29](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

March 14, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, March 14, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 2:00 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill of the 4th, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

S.B. 172 by Goggans of the 7th – Georgia Retiree Health Benefit Fund; reports to the board of community health

This bill deletes language requiring the Department of Community Health (DCH) furnish to its board, at the board's regularly scheduled meetings, reports reflecting the obligations of the Georgia Retiree Health Benefit Fund, and other information concerning the fund. Instead, new language requires DCH to make its annual report of fund activities available to the board, and include in the report, information reflecting obligations of the fund, earnings on investments, and other information the board deems necessary.

Senator Greg Goggans of the 7th, author, explained the content of the bill to the Committee and heard questions.

Senator Jack Hill, of the 4th, Chairman, assisted in providing a more detailed explanation of the bill's intent. After a lengthy discussion, many questions and requests for clarification, a motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd, that **S.B. 172** “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Balfour of the 9th.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Wednesday, March 14, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[SB 172](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

March 28, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, March 28, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 3:05 p.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill of the 4th, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.R. 102 by O'Neal of the 146th and others – Clark, Mr. Robert; compensate; provide for state income tax exclusion

This resolution authorizes the Department of Corrections to pay the sum of \$1.2 million to Mr. Robert Clark for his suffered loss of liberty, personal injury, lost wages, injury to reputation and emotional distress, as a result of being incarcerated more than 23 years for crimes he was eventually proved innocent of by DNA testing. The resolution also excludes this amount from his taxable net income for state income tax purposes.

Senator Horacena Tate of the 38th, Chair of the Compensation Resolution Study Committee, presented the resolution, briefly explaining the details concerning Mr. Clark's false imprisonment. Mr. Clark was present and was introduced before the Committee.

The Compensation Resolution Study Committee offered a Substitute to H.R. 102, recommending that the sum be administered through the Department of Administrative Services rather than the Department of Corrections.

After a brief discussion, a motion was made by Thompson of the 33rd that **H.R. 102** “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Seay of the 34th. Unanimous vote.

H.B. 94 by Richardson of the 19th and others - Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007

A Bill to amend an Act making and providing appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2006, and ending June 30, 2007, known as the “General Appropriations Act.”

Chairman Hill of the 4th gave a brief overview of the Senate version to H.B. 94, identifying critical and emergency funds as well as constitutional obligations of the state such as funding the midyear Education Budget for school enrollment growth.

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March 28, 2007

He also directed the following Subcommittee Chairs to review significant agency changes in the Detail Report explaining all differences between the House and Senate versions and to respond to any questions:

Judiciary - Chairman Hill reviewed the differences.
Community Health – Senator Greg Goggans of the 7th
Education – Senator Dan Moody of the 56th

The Chairman covered all other changes noted in the Substitute to H.B. 94 Detail Report.

Following a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Bulloch of the 11th, that **H.B. 94 “Do pass by substitute”**, seconded by Mullis of the 53rd. The bill passed with a unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Wednesday, March 28, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[HR 102](#), [HB 94](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

April 10, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Tuesday, April 10, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:00 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.B. 529 by Royal of the 171st and others – General Assembly; budgetary functions; reflect changes

This bill amends numerous provisions of the Official Code of Georgia to reflect changes in the organization of the General Assembly with respect to budgetary functions such as authorizing the establishment of the Senate and House Budget Offices as well as giving authority to the Director of each office to request information from the various governmental entities. The bill also repeals language creating and referencing the Budgetary Responsibility Oversight Committee.

Representative Royal of the 171st, author of the bill, presented bill to the Committee and answered questions.

A motion was made by Harp of the 29th, that **H.B. 529**, “**Do pass**,” seconded by Grant of the 25th. Unanimous vote.

H.B. 443 by Coan of the 101st and others – Employment security; employment; change definition; provisions

This bill amends several sections of the Official Code of Georgia relating to employment security, so as to provide for changes to what shall be deemed “employment”; to extend suspension of adjustments based upon the State-wide Reserve Ratio; to provide for a reduced adjustment in contribution rates through a certain time period; to provide for a change in the weekly benefit amount over a certain period; to provide a supplemental appropriation for the Department of Labor of additional funds which are otherwise available to the department.

Representative Coan of the 101st, author of the bill, explained the content of the bill to the Committee.

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April 10, 2007

A committee substitute was offered to H.B. 443.

Following a lengthy discussion, questions, and requests for clarification, a motion was made by Williams of the 19th that [H.B. 443](#) **“Do pass by substitute”**, seconded by Mullis of the 53rd.

The bill passed with 19 votes for and 1 opposed (Henson of the 41st).

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Hill of the 4th, Chairman

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Tuesday, April 10, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[HB 529](#), [HB 443](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

April 16, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Monday, April 16, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 11:25 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.B. 120 by Willard of the 49th and others – Supreme Court; Court of Appeals; certain judges; travel allowances; provide

This bill amends the Code relating to the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals respectively, so as to provide for travel allowances for certain appellate Justices and Judges.

Representative Willard of the 49th introduced the bill to the Committee. After a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Bulloch of the 11th that **H.B. 120** “**Do pass**”, seconded by Grant of the 25th. Unanimous vote.

H.B. 48 by Chambers of the 81st and others – Georgia State Indemnification Fund; definitions; change terms

This bill, relating to indemnification with request to the death or permanent disability of law enforcement officers and firefighters changes the definition of “In the line of duty” to include: training with respect to firefighters and law enforcement officers, while on duty and performing services for and with or without compensation from the law enforcement or fire service agency which employees them.

Representative Chambers of the 81st, presented the bill and after a brief discussion and questions, a motion was made by Grant of the 25th that **H.B. 48**, “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Health of the 31st. The bill passed with a unanimous vote.

H.B. 279 by Collins of the 27th and others – Katie Beckett waiver program; eligibility; certain children; require certain procedures

This bill relates to medical assistance generally, so as to require certain procedures for determinations relating to requalifying eligibility for medical assistance through the Katie Beckett waiver programs for children born with Myelomeningocele, the most severe form of Spina Bifida generally requiring some surgical correction on the spine.

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April 16, 2007

Representative Collins of the 27th, author of the bill, presented the bill to Committee members.

A Fiscal Note prepared by the Georgia Department of Audits and Accounts was provided to Committee members on the monetary impact of the bill. This document can be obtained in Committee files.

Mr. Mark Trail, Chief Advisor for Medical Assistance Plans with the Georgia Department of Community Health testified that although the bill has admirable intent, the Federal Government would not approve a State Plan that carves out a single group of recipients. Federal regulation prohibits altering consideration for recipients with a specific illness.

Several Committee members also expressed concern because the bill denotes only one certain disabled group and questioned the fairness in excluding children with other disabilities from this special requalifying.

A motion was made that **H.B. 279**, “**Do pass**” by Thompson of the 33rd, seconded by Thomas of the 54th. The bill passed with 24 votes for and 2 opposed (Harp of the 29th and Unterman of the 45th).

HB 95 by Richardson of the 19th and others – General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2007 – June 30, 2008

This Bill is to make and provide appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2007 and ending June 30, 2008.

Chairman Hill explained all changes line by line to the Committee Substitute. Upon answering questions and providing some clarifications, a motion was made by Johnson of the 1st that **H.B. 95**, “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Tolleson of the 20th. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 12:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Monday, April 16, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[HB 120](#), [HB 48](#), [HB 279](#), [HB 95](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

April 17, 2007

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Tuesday, April 17, 2007 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 8:00 a.m. Members present are listed on the attached Roll Call sheet.

The meeting was called to order by Senator Jack Hill, Chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee. Business was conducted as follows:

H.B. 549 by Burkhalter of the 50th – Children with disabilities; basic therapy services; establish requirements

This bill ensures that disabled children who are eligible for medical assistance receive the medically necessary therapy services under the Medicaid Early Periodic Screening Diagnostic and Treatment Program (EPSDT). It seeks to simplify the process and paperwork by which occupational, speech and physical therapy services are applied for and received by eligible children.

Representative Burkhalter of the 50th presented the bill to the Committee. Sen. Moody of the 56th offered and discussed the Committee Substitute to H.B. 549 discussing the importance and effect of this bill.

A Fiscal Note was provided to the Committee members on the monetary impact of the bill. This document can be obtained in Committee files.

Several advocates testified on behalf of the bill. The Committee also heard testimony from Mr. Mark Trail, Chief Advisor for Medical Assistance Plans with the Georgia Department of Community Health on some of the unintentional consequences this bill could have at the federal level.

An Amendment to the Substitute was offered by Heath of the 31st. After a brief explanation, a motion was made by Heath of the 31st to amend the Substitute, seconded by Unterman of the 45th. The motion failed with 7 for, 10 opposed.

A motion was then made by Harp of the 29th that **H.B. 549**, **“Do pass by substitute”**, seconded by Smith of the 52nd. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2007 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee

Adoption of 2007 Committee Rules

[HB 549](#)

Hill-Chairman	Murphy
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Meyer von Bremen
Golden-Secretary	Pearson
Balfour	Schaefer
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Cowsert	Seay
Fort	Smith
Grant	Staton (ex-officio)
Hamrick	Tate
Harp	Thomas, D.
Heath	Thomas, R.
Henson	Thompson
Hooks	Tolleson
Johnson	Unterman
Moody	Williams
Mullis	Wiles (ex-officio)

Shaded = present

August 30, 2007

Mr. Bob Ewing
Secretary of the Senate
353 State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Mr. Ewing:

I return herewith to the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, the following bills and resolutions which were not acted upon in the Senate Appropriations Committee during the 2007 Legislative Session:

[S.B. 22](#)

[S.B. 36](#)

[H.B. 119](#)

[H.B. 319](#)

[S.B. 300](#)

I also submit my completed minutes book.

Sincerely,

/s/ Angela W. Touhy, Recording Secretary
Senate Appropriations Committee