

**2008 SENATE SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
COMMITTEE ROSTER**

Senator Cecil Staton, 18th

Chairman

P. O. Box 26427
Macon, GA 31221

Senator Bill Heath, 31st

Vice Chairman

2225 Cashtown Road
Bremen, GA 30110

Senator John Douglas, 17th

Secretary

70 Windsong Drive
Covington, GA 30016

Senator Nan Orrock, 36th

107 Delaware Avenue, S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30316

Senator J. B. Powell, 23rd

228 Church Street
Blyth, GA 30805

Senator Nancy Schaefer, 50th

Ex-Officio

P. O. Box 294
Turnerville, GA 30580

Senator David Shafer, 48th

Ex-Officio

4231 Pleasant Hill Road
Suite B
Duluth, GA 30096

Senator Don Thomas, 54th

Ex-Officio

184 Haig Mill Road
Dalton, GA 30721

Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
February 7, 2008

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Thursday, February 7, 2008 in room 310 of the CLOB. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

The following Senators were present:

Staton, 18th, Chairman
Douglas, 17th, Secretary
Heath, 31st, Vice-Chair
Orrock, 36th
Powell, 23rd
Thomas, 54th

Chairman Staton stated that the Committee would not hear [SB 391](#) today.

[SB 59](#) (Staton, 18th) Social Networking Website; illegal for owner to allow minor to create/maintain profile; provide for penalties

Chairman Staton explained that this bill was introduced last year and he did not anticipate a lengthy hearing. He acknowledged that recent proposed model legislation would be beneficial but said that this legislation addresses a different concern: parental rights. He said that he had worked closely with Legislative Counsel on this legislation.

Speaking against this legislation:

Braden Cox, NetChoice
Tom Harold, Motion Picture Association of America
Paul Hernacki, Definition 6
Jeff Katz, Technology Leadership Coalition

After much discussion, Chairman Staton asked for a motion. Senator Douglas made a motion that [SB 59](#) do pass and Senator Heath seconded the motion. SB 59 passed by 4 yeas with Senator Orrock abstaining.

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Meeting adjourned at 3:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator John Douglas, 17th
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary

Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
February 14, 2008

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Thursday, February 14, 2008 in room 125 of the Capitol. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

The following Senators were present:

Staton, 18th, Chairman
Douglas, 17th, Secretary
Heath, 31st, Vice-Chair
Thomas, 54th

SB 391 (Staton, 18th) Secretary of State; authorize/procure a website service provider; public notice website; definitions; provide for certain requirements

Senator Staton presented the bill along with the substitute to the Committee and answered questions from the members.

Speaking against the bill:

David Hudson, Attorney for GA Press
Mike Buffington, Publisher
Marcia Rubensohn, GMA

Michael O'Sullivan of the Secretary of State's Office also spoke briefly to say that his office neither opposed nor supported the legislation.

After much discussion regarding the language, "legal organ" throughout the code sections, Senator Douglas made a motion to insert "newspaper" in its place. Senator Heath seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

There was some concern expressed over the fee of \$25.00 that would be charged for postings on the website. Senator Douglas made a motion to amend the language to say, "the fee could not exceed the fee that would be charged by a newspaper". Senator Heath seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

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Cynthia Studdard of CPS Strategies spoke in favor of the bill.

Senator Heath made a motion that [SB 391](#) **do pass by substitute** and Senator Douglas seconded the motion.
SB 391 passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator John Douglas, 17th
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary

Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
February 21, 2008

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Thursday, February 21, 2008 in room 310 of the CLOB. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Senators present were:

Staton, 18th, Chairman
Heath, 31st, Vice-Chair
Powell, 23rd

SB 474 (Staton, 18th) Minors; provide availability of parental controls over Internet access

Braden Cox, from the NetChoice Coalition, stated that his coalition supports this bill because it draws upon the resources of everyone, and all of these little steps will go a long way.

Senator Heath made a motion that **SB 474 do pass by substitute**. Senator Powell seconded the motion and SB 474 passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator John Douglas, 17th
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary

Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
February 27, 2008

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Wednesday, February 27, 2008 in room 310 of the CLOB. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 4:35p.m.

The following Senators were present:

Staton, 18th, Chairman
Douglas, 17th, Secretary
Orrock, 36th
Schaefer, 50th

SB 525 (Staton, 18th) Georgia Technology Authority; change certain powers; authorize to develop certain plans and reports

Senator Powell arrived at 4:40 p.m.

Senator Heath arrived at 4:42 p.m.

Chairman Staton presented his bill to the Committee and introduced Jeff McCord and Kate Pfirman from the Georgia Technology Authority. Chairman Staton said that this bill was largely an agency housekeeping bill. Mr. McCord and Ms. Pfirman then explained the legislation's provisions. The bill revises current reporting requirements to remove outdated references (such as to the Electronic Commerce Study Committee, which has sunsetted), and incorporates certain requirements for an annual report into a single code section.

Senator Orrock made a motion that **SB 525 do pass**. Senator Douglas seconded the motion and SB 525 passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator John Douglas, 17th
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary

June 25, 2008

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

Dear Mr. Ewing:

Please find listed below the bills remaining in the Senate Science and Technology Committee for the 2008 Legislative Session:

[SB 136](#)

[SB 540](#)

Sincerely,

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary
Senate Science and Technology Committee