

Insurance and Labor Committee Members
2009-2010 Term

Senator Ralph Hudgens (47th)
Chairman
6509 Highway 106 South
Hull, GA 30646

Senator David Shafer (48th)
Vice-Chairman
P.O. Box 880
Duluth, GA 30096

Senator Dan Moody (56th) **Secretary**
3977 Merriweather Woods
Johns Creek, GA 30022

Senator Robert Brown (26th)
PO Box 5742
Macon, GA 31208

Senator Jeff Chapman (3rd)
P.O. Box 3119
Brunswick, GA 31521

Senator Tim Golden (8th)
110 Beacon Hill
Valdosta, GA 31602

Senator Ed Harbison (15th)
P.O. Box 1292
Columbus, GA 31902

Senator Jack Murphy (27th) **Ex-Officio**
3830 Adams Road
Cumming, GA 30041

Senator Chip Pearson (51st) **Ex-Officio**
P. O. Box 209
Dawsonville, GA 30534

Senator Ronald Ramsey (43rd)
5271 Snapfinger Woods Dr
Decatur, GA 30035

Senator Chip Rogers (21st)
P.O. Box 813
Woodstock, GA 30188

Senator John Wiles (37th) **Ex-Officio**
800 Kennesaw Avenue
Suite 400
Marietta, GA 30060

Shannon Wallace, **Recording Secretary**
Suite 110 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Insurance & Labor Committee

Rules

2009-2010 Term

1. These Committee Rules of Operation shall be consistent with Senate Rule 2-1.5 (d) regarding the establishment of Rules of Operation.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be four (4) members.
3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
4. 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 at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
6. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report in writing, setting forth succinctly the reasons for their dissent.
7. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by a quorum of the Committee in a meeting called by the Chairman.
8. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he designates to do so. In the event that more than one member of the General Assembly has signed a measure, the principal author shall be the one whose name appeared first in the list of authors.
9. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
10. Where these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern. (Senate Rule 2-1.5 {d})

Insurance and Labor Committee Meeting

January 29, 2009

Mezz 1 - Capitol

Members Present:

Hudgens (47) Chairman Golden (8)
Shafer (48) Vice Chairman Rogers (21)
Moody (56) Secretary
Chapman (3)

Chairman Hudgens called the meeting to order at 2:15 PM and welcomed committee members, staff, and visitors. He called upon Senator Chapman to open the meeting in prayer.

Chairman Hudgens asked the committee to review the rules of the committee and vote on their adoption. The rules were adopted without objection.

SB 61 (Hudgens, 47th) Life Settlements Act; license/registration requirements for life settlement brokers; definitions.

Chairman Hudgens presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion, and the following people testified in support of the bill: Joe Sports, Life Insurance industry; and Stephanie Kozol, WellCare.

Senator Shafer, 48th, made a motion DO PASS. Senator Rogers, 21st, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **SB 61 DO PASS.**

SB 62 (Hudgens, 47th) Insurance; provide certain definitions; include plan administrators in prompt pay requirements; penalties

Chairman Hudgens presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion. The following people testified in opposition to certain provisions in the bill: Ryan Mahoney, Georgia Chamber of Commerce; Graham Thompson, America's Health Insurance Plans; and Donald Palmisano, Medical Association of Georgia.

The following people testified in support of the bill: Ethan James, Medical Association of Georgia; Martha Phillips, Dental Association of Georgia; and Aubrey Villines, Georgia Chiropractic Association.

Senator Golden, 8th, motioned DO PASS on the bill. Senator Shafer, 48th, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **SB 62 DO PASS.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 4:44 PM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

Insurance and Labor Committee Meeting

February 3, 2009

Senate Mezz 1 - Capitol

Members Present:

Hudgens (47) Chairman	Shafer (48) Vice Chairman
Wiles (37)	Chapman, (3)
Rogers (21)	Pearson (51)
Brown (26)	Ramsey, Sr. (43)
Murphy (27)	

Chairman Hudgens called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM and welcomed committee members, staff, and visitors. He also opened the meeting in prayer.

SB 63 (Hudgens, 47th) Insurance; multiple employer self-insured health plan; independent nonproprietary institutions of higher education; not subject to requirements

Senator Butterworth, 50th, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Rogers, 21st, made a motion DO PASS. Senator Murphy, 27th, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **SB 63 DO PASS.**

SB 76 (Hudgens, 47th) Workers' Compensation Insurance; revise code section; reg. of rates; remove certain references

Mr. Ray Famer, representing the American Insurance Association presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Rogers, 21st, motioned DO PASS on the bill. Senator Pearson, 51st, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **SB 76 DO PASS.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 2:23 PM.

/s/ Senator Ralph Hudgens, 47th, Chairman

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

Insurance and Labor Committee Meeting

February 17, 2009

Senate Mezz 1 - Capitol

Members Present:

Hudgens (47) Chairman	Shafer (48) Vice Chairman
Harbison (15)	Chapman (3)
Golden (8)	Wiles (37)
Pearson (51)	Moody (56) Secretary

Senator Hudgens called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM and welcomed committee members, staff, and visitors. He also opened the meeting in prayer.

[SB 95](#) (Unterman, 45th) Insurance; establish unfair trade practice to fail to consider suitability for a person 65 years of age or older

Senator Unterman, 45th, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Chapman, 3rd, made a motion DO PASS. Senator Moody, 56th, seconded the motion. There was one vote in opposition to the bill, from Senator Pearson, 51st. **[SB 95](#) DO PASS.**

[HB 80](#) (Maxwell, 17th) Insurance contracts; corporations; employees covered; change minimum number

Representative Maxwell, 17th, presented the bill to the committee.

There was no discussion.

Senator Shafer, 48th, motioned DO PASS on the bill. Senator Chapman, 3rd, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **[HB 80](#) DO PASS.**

[SB 123](#) (Hawkins, 49th) Pharmacy Benefits Managers; provide for regulation and licensure by the Commissioner of Insurance; definitions; license requirements/filing fees

Senator Hawkins, 49th, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Golden, 8th, motioned DO PASS on the bill. Senator Shafer, 48th, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **[SB 123](#) DO PASS**

SB 105 (Hill, 32nd) Insurance Commissioner; authorize health reimbursement arrangement only plans; approved for sale; individual health insurance policies

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the bill to the committee.

Senator Wiles, 37th motioned DO PASS and Senator Moody, 56th, seconded the motion. The committee, with the exception of Senator Golden, 8th, voted to pass this bill. **SB 105 DO PASS**

SB 94 (Hill, 32nd) Insurance; insured under a group accident/sickness policy include dependents up to age 25

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Wiles, 32nd, moved DO PASS. Senator Chapman, 3rd, seconded. The committee, with the exception of Senator Golden, 8th, voted to pass this bill. **SB 94 DO PASS**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 2:57 PM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

Insurance and Labor Committee Meeting

February 24, 2009

Senate Mezz 1 - Capitol

Members Present:

Hudgens (47) Chairman	Shafer (48) Vice Chairman
Moody (56) Secretary	Harbison (15)
Pearson (51)	Rogers (21)
Chapman (3)	Ramsey, Sr. (43)
Murphy (27)	

Chairman Hudgens called the meeting to order at 2:00 PM and welcomed committee members, staff, and visitors.

SR 108 (Johnson, 1st) Election; right of secret ballot - CA

Senator Johnson, 1st, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Pearson, 51st, made a motion DO PASS. Senator Moody, 56th, seconded the motion. There were seven votes in support and two votes in opposition to the bill, from Senator Harbison, 15th and Senator Ramsey, Sr., 43rd. **SR 108 DO PASS**

SB 144 (Shafer, 48th) Insurance Agent License; applicant shall be appointed by an authorized insurer prior to issuance of the license; repeal requirement

Senator Shafer, 48th, presented the bill's committee substitute to the committee.

There was some discussion. The Committee also amended the bill to add new language at the end of the bill.

Senator Murphy, 27th, motioned DO PASS on the amended committee substitute bill. Senator Moody, 56th, seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. **SB 144 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE.**

SR 273 (Johnson, 1st) Congress; urged not to include a project labor agreement requirement in any economic stimulus legislation affecting State of Georgia.

Senator Johnson, 1st, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Pearson, 51st, motioned DO PASS on the bill. Senator Moody, 56th, seconded the motion. The vote was 4-2 in favor of passing the bill; Senators Harbison, 15th, and Ramsey, Sr., 43rd voted against passage. **SR 273 DO PASS**

SB 92 (Hill, 32nd) Social Services; convert Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Program funds to premium assistance; low-income; private sector health insurance plans

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the bill to the committee.

There was some discussion on this bill.

Chairman Hudgens held action on the bill until the next committee meeting in order to hear all the testimony from interested parties.

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 3:03 PM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

Insurance and Labor Committee Meeting

March 3, 2009

Senate Mezzanine

Members Present:

Hudgens (47) Chairman	Pearson (51)
Brown (26)	Ramsey, Sr. (43)
Chapman (3)	Rogers (21)
Murphy (27)	Wiles (37)

Chairman Hudgens called the meeting to order at 9:15 AM and welcomed committee members, staff, and visitors. The Chairman asked Senator Rogers, 21st, to open the meeting in prayer.

SB 92 (Hill, 32nd) Social Services; convert Medicaid/PeachCare for Kids Program funds to premium assistance; low-income; private sector health insurance plans

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the bill to the committee as a follow-up to the previous meeting's discussions.

There was testimony from interested parties.

Senator Wiles, 37th, motioned DO PASS on this bill. Senator Pearson, 51st, seconded the motion. The bill passed, with two 'no' votes: Senators Brown, 26th, and Ramsey, Sr., 43rd. **SB 92 DO PASS.**

SB 92 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.

SB 161 (Grant, 25th) Insurance; require certain coverage for autism spectrum disorders; provide definitions

Senator Williams, 19th, presented the bill to the committee.

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, allowed for thirty minutes for the supporters of this bill, as well as the opponents to this bill. People who spoke in support of SB 161 included Lauren Utom, parent of autistic child and representative of Autism Speaks.

SB 161 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM.

/s/ Senator Ralph Hudgens, 47th, Chairman

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

SENATE INSURANCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

March 4th, 2009 - Room 125 Capitol

SENATORS PRESENT:

Hudgens, 47 th	Rogers, 21 st
Chapman, 3 rd	Wiles, 37 th
Brown, 26 th	Shafer, 48 th
Moody, 56 th	

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM

SB 125 (Brown, 26th) Insurance Companies; required to indicate on their premium statements to consumers; premium taxes paid by the insurer

Senator Brown, 26th, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Rogers, 21st, motioned DO PASS by Committee Substitute. Senator Chapman, 3rd, seconded the motion. The Committee unanimously voted to pass SB 125. **SB 125 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.**

SB 182 (Hill, 32nd) Insurance; certain group accident/sickness insurance plans; revise time period/eligibility for continuation coverage

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion. Senator Wiles, 37th, offered an amendment to the Committee deleting certain language that referred to an unclear effect of the bill.

The Committee unanimously accepted the amendment proposed by Senator Wiles, 37th.

Senator Shafer, 48th, moved DO PASS by Committee Substitute. Senator Rogers, 21st, seconded the motion. There were no votes against the bill's passage. **SB 182 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

SENATE INSURANCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

March 17th, 2009 - Senate Mezzanine

SENATORS PRESENT:

Hudgens, 47 th	Shafer, 48 th
Wiles, 37 th	Murphy, 27 th
Ramsey, 43 rd	Chapman, 3 rd
Rogers, 21 st	Moody, 56 th
Harbison, 15 th	

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, called the meeting to order at 2:10 PM

HB 305 (Knox, 24th) Insurance; group life policy coverage; remove participation requirement

Representative Knox, 24th, presented the bill to the Committee.

Senator Murphy, 27th, motioned DO PASS. Senator Rogers, 21st, seconded the motion. The bill passed 5-2. Senator Rogers, 21st, and Senator Moody, 56th, voted “no” while Senators Wiles, 37th, Harbison, 15th, Ramsey, 43rd, Murphy, 27th, and Chapman, 3rd, voted “yes.” **HB 305 DO PASS.**

HB 410 (Knox, 24th) Insurance; premium taxes for certain products; provide exemption; provisions

Representative Knox, 24th, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Moody, 56th, requested that this bill be put into an Insurance Subcommittee. Senator Rogers, 21st, was appointed Chairman of the Subcommittee, with Senator Moody, 56th, and Senator Ramsey, 43rd appointed as members of the Subcommittee.

HB 412 (Knox, 24th) Insurance; certain health reimbursement arrangement only plans; approve for sale; authorize

Representative Knox presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Rogers, 21st, motioned DO PASS with a motion to second by Senator Wiles, 37th. There was no opposition to the bill’s passage. **HB 412 DO PASS.**

HB 330 (Coan, 101st) Workers' compensation; decisions of administrative law judge and appellate division; change certain provisions

Representative Coan, 101st, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Rogers, 21st, motioned DO PASS, seconded by Senator Wiles, 37th. The bill had no opposition. **HB 330 DO PASS.**

HB 550 (Meadows, 5th) Insurance; mutual life insurer; additional method of payment; provide

Representative Meadows, 5th, presented the bill to Committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Chapman, 3rd, motioned DO PASS, and was seconded by Senator Harbison, 15th. There was no opposition to the bill's passage. **HB 550 DO PASS.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

SENATE INSURANCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

March 19th, 2009- Senate Mezzanine

SENATORS PRESENT:

Hudgens, 47 th	Shafer, 48 th
Brown, 26 th	Rogers, 21 st
Wiles, 37 th	Chapman, 3 rd

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, called the meeting to order at 3:15 PM.

HB 410 (Knox, 24th) Insurance; premium taxes for certain products; provide exemption; provisions

Chairman Knox presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion.

Senator Rogers, 21st, reported the findings of the Subcommittee he chaired on HB 410. The Subcommittee wished to keep the bill as is.

Senator Wiles, 37th, motioned DO PASS and was seconded by Senator Rogers, 21st. There was no opposition to the bill. **HB 410 DO PASS.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 3:21 PM.

/s/ Senator Ralph Hudgens, 47th, Chairman

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

SENATE INSURANCE & LABOR COMMITTEE

March 26th, 2009- 450 Capitol

SENATORS PRESENT:

Hudgens, 47 th	Brown, 26 th
Moody, 56 th	Golden, 8 th
Pearson, 51 st	Murphy, 27 th
Rogers, 21 st	Ramsey, Sr., 43 rd
Chapman, 3 rd	

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, called the meeting to order at 8:08 AM.

SR 334 (Hill, 32nd) Health Care Transformation; create Senate Study Committee

Senator Hill, 32nd, presented the resolution to the Committee.

Senator Moody, 56th, motioned DO PASS, seconded by Sen. Brown, 26th. There was no opposition to the bill's passage. **SR 334 DO PASS**

SR 628 (Hudgens, 47th) Health Care Provider Rental Network Contract Arrangements; create Senate Study Committee

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, presented this resolution to the Committee.

There was no discussion.

Senator Brown, 26th, motioned DO PASS, which was seconded by Senator Moody, 56th. The resolution passed unanimously. **SR 628 DO PASS**.

HB 321 (Davis, 109th) Insurance Delivery Enhancement Act of 2009; enact

Representative Davis, 109th, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion.

Chairman Hudgens, 47th, proposed an amendment to the bill. There was no opposition to the opposition.

Senator Brown, 26th, motioned DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE, seconded by Senator Golden, 8th. There was no opposition to the bill's passage. **HB 321 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE**.

HB 417 (Neal, 1st) Insurance; dispute; material not in English; provisions

Representative Neal, 1st, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion on the bill.

Senator Murphy, 27th, motioned DO PASS, which was seconded by Senator Golden, 8th. Senator Brown, 26th, was the only “no” vote on the bill. **HB 417 DO PASS.**

HB 581 (Coan, 101st) Georgia Works Job Creation and Protection Act of 2009; enact

Representative Coan, 101st, presented the bill to the Committee.

There was some discussion.

Chairman Brown, 26th, motioned to amend the bill by making the effective date July 1st, 2009. Senator Ramsey, Sr. seconded the motion. Senator Rogers, 21st, and Senator Pearson, 51st, voted “no” to the adoption of the amendment. Senator Brown, 26th, Senator Chapman, 3rd, Senator Golden, 8th, and Senator Ramsey, Sr., 43rd, voted “yes to the adoption of the amendment. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 4-2.

Senator Ramsey, Sr., 43rd, motioned DO PASS on the bill by committee substitute, and was seconded by Senator Golden, 8th. There was no opposition to the bill’s passage. **HB 581 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE.**

There being no further business taken, Chairman Hudgens, 47th, adjourned the meeting at 8:58 AM.

/s/ Senator Dan Moody, 56th, Secretary

/s/ Shannon Wallace, Recording Secretary

November 4, 2009

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

Dear Mr. Ewing:

Enclosed are the following bills upon which no action was taken during the 2009 Session of the General Assembly:

[SB 282](#)

[SR 187](#)

[SB 215](#)

[HB 128](#)

[SB 135](#)

[SB 245](#)

[SB 209](#)

[SB 50](#)

[SB 189](#)

[SB 286](#)

[SB 3](#) (with substitute)

Sincerely,

/s/ Shannon Wallace
Recording Secretary
Senate Insurance and Labor Committee