

2009 – 2010 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
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Senator J. B. Powell, 23rd
Secretary
228 Church Street
Blyth, GA 30805

Senator Lester Jackson, 2nd
1501 Abercorn Street
Savannah, GA 31401

Senator Nan Orrock, 36th
107 Delaware Avenue, S.E.
Atlanta, GA 30316

Senator David Shafer, 48th
Ex-Officio
P. O. Box 880
Duluth, GA 30096

Senator Don Thomas, 54th
Ex-Officio
184 Haig Mill Road
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SENATE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

2009 – 2010 RULES

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be three (3) members.
2. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered; the Chairman shall have the authority to call a bill, resolution, substitute, or amendment for debate and explanation only.
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 at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
5. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 48 hours prior to hearing.
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 concise 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 or she designates to do so. In the event that more than one member of the General Assembly has signed a measure, the principle author shall be the one whose name appeared first in the list of authors.
9. When these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.

**Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
January 27, 2010**

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Wednesday, January 27, 2010 in room 307 of the CLOB. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

The following Senators were present:

Staton, 18th, Chairman
Heath, 31st, Vice-Chair
Powell, 23rd, Secretary
Jackson, 2nd

SB 319 (Sen. Staton 18th) Education; definition of "textbook" include computer hardware/technical equipment to support use of nonprint or digital content

Chairman Staton told the Committee that he was introducing a substitute (LC 33 3440S) for the bill and the purpose was to change some existing language. He said that he drafted the bill to allow Georgia schools to take advantage of growing technologies and to give administrators the option of purchasing digital textbooks and equipment for classroom use.

Chairman Staton introduced the President of the Technology Association of Georgia (TAG), Tino Mantella, who spoke in favor of the bill. He said that the bill would give students exciting new opportunities to learn with interactive digital textbooks and give school districts potential cost savings with buying the digital copies.

Senator Heath made a motion that **SB 319 do pass by substitute**. Senator Lester Jackson seconded the motion and SB 319 passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

/s/ Senator J. B. Powell, 23rd
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the
Senate Science and Technology Committee
March 17, 2010**

The Senate Science and Technology Committee met on Wednesday, March 17, 2010 in room 307 of the CLOB. Chairman Staton called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m.

The following Senators were present:

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

SB 470 (Sen. Staton 18th) Computer Security; illegal to prevent reasonable efforts to block installation or execution of a covered file-sharing program

Chairman Staton explained his bill and said there was a growing concern about fraud on computers.

Thomas D. Syndor, Director for the Center for the Study of Digital Property in Washington, D. C., spoke in favor of the bill.

Senator Heath offered a substitute to the bill that would make developers specify every time a file is being downloaded and exactly what type of file is being accessed.

After some discussion, Chairman Staton asked for a motion and Senator Heath made a motion that **SB 470 do pass by substitute**. Senator Orrock seconded the motion and SB 470 passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator J. B. Powell, 23rd
Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner
Recording Secretary