

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Jack Hill, 4th - Chairman, (R-Reidsville)
P.O. Box 486
Reidsville, GA 30453

Bill Hamrick, 30th, (R-Carrollton)
P.O. 368
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Greg Goggans, 7th - Vice Chair, (R-Douglas)
1300 Hampton Road
Douglas, GA 31533

Bill Heath, 31st (R-Bremen)
2225 Cashtown Road
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Tim Golden, 8th - Secretary, (R-Valdosta)
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Jim Butterworth, 50th, (R-Cornelia)
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Chip Rogers, 21st, (R-Woodstock)
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Bill Cowsert, 46th, (R-Athens)
P.O. Box 512
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Mitch Seabaugh, 28th, (R-Sharpsburg)
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John Crosby, 13th, (R-Tifton)
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P.O. Box 960008
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Freddie Powell Sims, 12th, (D-Dawson)
5377 Goose Hollow Road
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Cecil Staton, 18th, (R-Macon)
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Macon, GA 31221

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Thompson, C., 5th, (D-Tucker)
6320 Glenbrook Drive
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Thompson, S., 33rd, (D-Marietta)
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Marietta, GA 30008

Ross Tolleson, 20th, (R-Perry)
P.O. Box 1356
Perry, GA 31069

Renee Unterman, 45th, (R-Buford)
P.O. Box 508
Buford, GA 30518

Tommie Williams, 19th, (R-Lyons)
148 Williams Avenue
Lyons, GA 30436

**2011 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 18, 2011

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 10:30 a.m. for the 2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings. 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 Jack Hill and Representative Terry England, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

The Honorable Nathan Deal, Governor of Georgia, spoke before the Joint Appropriations Committees presenting them with a brief overview of his recommendations for the S.F.Y. 2011 Supplemental and S.F.Y. 2012 General Appropriations.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the 2011 Supplemental ([H.B. 77](#)) and the 2012 General Appropriations ([H.B. 78](#)).

8. Dr. Kenneth Heaghney, State Fiscal Economist – Economic Outlook and Revenue Estimating
9. Dr. John Barge, State School Superintendent – Dept. of Education
10. Dr. Erroll B. Davis, Chancellor – Board of Regents (University System of Georgia)
11. Ronald Jackson, Commissioner – Technical College System of Georgia
12. Judge Kathy Gosselin, President – Council of Superior Court Judges

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 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Tuesday, January 18, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings on
FY2011 Amended and FY2012 General Budgets

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

January 19, 2011

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Wednesday, January 19, 2011 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 9:25 a.m. for the 2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings. Members present from the Senate are shown on the attached Roll Call sheet.

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

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2011 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 77](#)) and the S.F.Y. 2012 General Budget ([H.B. 78](#)).

13. Brian Owens, Commissioner – Department of Corrections
14. Amy Howell, Commissioner – Department of Juvenile Justice
15. Col. Bill Hitchens, Commissioner – Department of Public Safety
16. Chief Justice Carol Hunstein – Supreme Court of Georgia
17. Vance Smith, Commissioner – Department of Transportation
18. Chris Cumiskey, Commissioner – Dept. of Economic Development
19. Mark Williams, Commissioner – Department of Natural Resources
20. Allen Barnes, Director – Environmental Protection Division
21. Curtis Foltz, Executive Director – Georgia Ports Authority
22. Susan Hart Ridley, Director - Ga. State Financing and Investment Commission

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/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: **Wednesday, January 19, 2011**

Meeting: **Senate Appropriations Full Committee**
2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings on
FY2011 Amended and FY2012 General Budgets

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

January 20, 2011

The Joint Senate and House Appropriations Committees met on Thursday, January 20, 2011 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 8:55 a.m. for the 2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings. 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 Jack Hill and Representative Terry England, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee.

The following persons testified before the Joint Committees regarding the S.F.Y. 2011 Amended General Budget ([H.B. 77](#)) and the S.F.Y. 2012 General Budget ([H.B. 78](#)).

23. Clyde Reese, Commissioner – Department of Human Services
24. David Cook, Commissioner – Department of Community Health
25. Dr. Frank E. Shelp, Commissioner – Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
26. Mark Butler, Commissioner – Department of Labor
27. FY 2011 Federal Block Grant Hearings

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 12:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Thursday, January 20, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
2011 Session Joint Budget Hearings on
FY2011 Amended and FY2012 General Budgets

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

February 10, 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Thursday, February 10, 2011 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:

Adoption of 2011 Senate Appropriations Committee Rules – A motion was made “**Do pass**” by Mullis of the 53rd, seconded by Carter of the 1st, passed by unanimous vote.

S.B. 8 by Seabaugh of the 28th and others – State Accounting Officer; contract with a third party to audit state contracts; annual report

This bill requires the State Accounting Officer to contract with a third party to perform audits on state agencies’ contracts and recover overpayments erroneously made by state agencies to vendors. The contract may allow up to a maximum 20 percent of funds recovered to be used for compensation to the third party.

The State Accounting Officer must submit a report of his findings to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House as well as the affected state agencies regarding the audit findings. All state government organizations must comply with the State Accounting Officer for this purpose.

Finally, the bill exempts state administered health care plans from this Code section.

Seabaugh of the 28th, author of the bill, presented it in detail to the members of the Committee. Following a brief discussion, questions and clarification, the chair entertained a motion by Williams of the 19th that **S.B. 8**, “**Do pass**”, seconded by Carter of the 1st. Unanimous vote.

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February 10, 2011

S.B. 33 by Shafer of the 48th and others – Waste Reduction Act of 2011; Zero-Base Budgeting Act; application to the budget process; analysis of departmental/program objectives

This bill requires at least one-quarter of the Governor’s budget report beginning Jan. 2013 be submitted using Zero-Base Budgeting (ZBB) and at least one third of the report submitted using ZBB annually thereafter.

Shafer of the 48th, author of the legislation, provided an in-depth delivery of the bill’s objective to the Committee. He concluded his discussion by offering a Committee Substitute, changing the date of implementation from January 2012 to January 2013.

Following questions, a motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd that **S.B. 33**, “**Do pass by substitute,**” seconded by Brown of the 26th. The bill passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Thursday, February 10, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
S.B. 8
S.B. 33

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

February 22, 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 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. 77 by Ralston of the 7th and others – Supplemental appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2010 - June 30, 2011

A bill to amend an Act providing appropriations for the State Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2010, and ending June 30, 2011, known as the “General Appropriations Act.”

Hill of the 4th, Chair, presented the Senate version of H.B. 77 by explaining and providing a detailed overview of the differences that existed between the House and Senate reports. He discussed the difficult budget decisions and challenges the Committee faced during this process due to projected cuts from anticipated revenue shortfalls.

Chairman Hill noted the attendance of all Subcommittee Chairs present to assist with defined questions from the Committee. He also thanked the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office staff for the challenge they faced and successfully completed by assisting the subcommittees in the final development of the FY11 Supplemental Budget.

At the conclusion of a brief discussion, questions and comments, a motion was made by Bulloch of the 11th that **H.B. 77, “Do pass by Substitute”**, seconded by Cowser of the 46th. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Thursday, February 22, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
[H.B. 77](#) – Supplemental Appropriations

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

March 9, 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Wednesday, March 9, 2011 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 1:00 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:

S.B. 140 by Staton of the 18th and others - Georgia Higher Education Facilities Authority; revenue bonds; increase the amount of bonding authority

This legislation increases the amount of bonding authority for the Georgia Higher Education Facilities Authority from \$300 to \$500 million.

Staton of the 18th, primary author of the bill, defined the legislation to the members of the Committee. A discussion ensued in which various members had questions and requested further clarification on the Authority and its oversight, the funding structure of these projects, such as the use of public/private funds, competitive bidding process, as well as information on what necessitated the need to change the current funding level. Heath of the 31st inquired about the decision of \$500 million as the monetary cap in the increase in the amount of the bonding authority.

At the conclusion of this discussion, a motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd, that **S.B. 140**, “**Do pass**”, seconded by Sims of the 12th. The bill passed with 17 votes for and 1 opposed (Heath of the 31st).

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: **Wednesday, March 09, 2011**

Meeting: **Senate Appropriations Full Committee**
[S. B. 140](#)

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

March 28, 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Monday, March 28, 2011 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. 414 by Bearden of the 68th and others – Relating to the Georgia Aviation Authority; to provide for the transfer of certain personnel, aircraft and other assets to the Department of Public Safety

This bill revises the duties and authority of the Georgia Aviation Authority by transferring aircraft, specified personnel, and the responsibility of providing aviation services and support for public safety and legitimate state business functions to the Department of Public Safety.

Bearden of the 68th, the author of the bill, presented it to the Committee and announced his support of the Senate substitute. He expressed his desire to revert the public safety, emergency aviation portion back to the Georgia Department of Public Safety where it had originated before the creation of the Georgia Aviation Authority. Many questions and a lengthy discussion followed.

At this time, Chairman Hill instructed the special Senate Subcommittee on H.B. 414 made up of Heath of the 31st, Co-Chair, Butterworth of the 50th, Co-Chair, Hooks of the 14th, Grant of the 25th, and Balfour of the 9th to present the Committee with its recommendation and review of the substitute brought forth for consideration. Sen. Heath presented the substitute which was based on report findings and recommendations of the Subcommittee. He expressed his personal opposition of any dismantling of the Georgia Aviation Authority and would prefer it remain intact until its sunset date of 2014 thereby proving its merit. Sen. Heath stated that if the decision of this Committee was to move on H.B. 414 that it support the Subcommittee substitute which was agreed upon by both the DPS and the GAA.

Many questions were raised regarding safety concerns upon delivering control of flight scheduling and oversight back to DPS as well as facility lease issues.

At this time, Chairman Hill discontinued questions and directed the Committee to vote. Heath of the 31st made a motion on the adoption of the substitute by the Senate Subcommittee, seconded by Grant of the 25th. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman then directed the Committee to vote on the passage of H.B. 414 by substitute. The motion failed with 9 votes in favor and 10 votes opposed.

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March 28, 2011

A motion to reconsider was then offered by Thompson of the 33rd, seconded by Hooks of the 14th. By a vote of 9 in favor and 10 opposed, the reconsideration motion failed. At this time Chairman Hill announced that H.B. 414 would remain in the Committee.

H.B. 78 by Ralston of the 7th and others – General appropriations; State Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012

A bill to make and provide appropriations for the State Fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011 and ending June 30, 2012.

Hill of the 4th, Chair, presented the Senate version of H.B. 78 by providing an overview of the differences that existed between the House and Senate versions. He then noted the attendance of the Subcommittee Chairs as well as the staff of the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office to assist with questions from the Committee. Chairman Hill also thanked the Senate Budget and Evaluation Office staff for their hard work and dedication in helping the subcommittees to develop the FY12 General Budget.

Following questions, a motion was made by Mullis of the 53rd that **H.B. 78**, “**Do pass by substitute,**” seconded by Butterworth of the 50th. Unanimous vote.

There being no further business to come before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Monday, March 28, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
H. B. 78
H.B. 414

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

March 31, 2011

The Senate Appropriations Committee met on Thursday, March 31, 2011 in Room 341 State Capitol, convening at 8:30 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. 414 by Bearden of the 68th and others – Relating to the Georgia Aviation Authority; to provide for the transfer of certain personnel, aircraft and other assets to the Department of Public Safety

The bill requires that by September 1, 2011 all aviation assets previously transferred to the Georgia Aviation Authority (GAA) by the Department of Public Safety (DPS), be returned to the DPS. Assets include aircraft, personnel, airfields, hangars and associated budgeted operating funds.

Although the GAA may provide aviation support to local and state public safety and law enforcement entities when requested, it maintains its original purpose of overseeing the state's aviation assets and to provide aviation services to state air travelers. The bill provides that the DPS is authorized to acquire and maintain aviation assets assigned to it for public safety and legitimate state business purposes.

Additionally, the bill expands the membership of the GAA to include the Commissioner for the Department of Economic Development, and it removes the Authority's July, 2014 sunset provision.

Butterworth of the 50th, Co-Chair of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee reviewing this bill, presented the substitute for consideration.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was made by Tolleson of the 20th that **H.B. 414**, “**Do pass by substitute**”, seconded by Mullis of the 53rd.

The bill passed with 19 votes for and 2 opposed (Heath of the 31st and Balfour of the 9th).

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March 31, 2011

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

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Golden of the 8th, Secretary

/s/ Angela Touhy, Recording Secretary

2011 SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Roll Call Sheet

Date: Thursday, March 31, 2011

Meeting: Senate Appropriations Full Committee
[H.B. 414](#)

Hill-Chairman	Hooks
Goggans-Vice Chairman	Jackson, Bill
Golden-Secretary	Mullis
Balfour	Murphy
Brown	Rogers
Bulloch	Seabaugh
Butterworth	Seay
Carter, Buddy	Sims
Cowsert	Staton
Crosby	Tate
Fort	Thompson, C.
Grant	Thompson, S.
Hamrick	Tolleson
Heath	Unterman
Hill, Judson	Williams

Shaded = Present

August 3, 2011

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 which were not acted upon in the Senate Appropriations Committee during the 2011 Legislative Session:

[H.B. 33](#)
[S.B. 197](#)

I also submit my completed minutes.

Sincerely,

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