

**VETERANS, MILITARY & HOMELAND SECURITY
2011 COMMITTEE ROSTER**

Senator Ed Harbison, Chairman
District 15
P.O. Box 1292
Columbus, Georgia 31902
(404) 656-0074

Senator Barry Loudermilk, Vice Chairman
District 52
P.O. Box 465
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(404) 656-0034

Senator Robert Brown, Secretary
District 26
P.O. Box 5742
Macon, Georgia 31208
(404) 656-5035

Senator Gail Davenport
District 44
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Jonesboro, Georgia 30237
(404) 463-5260

Senator Rick Jeffares
District 17
300 Lester Mill Road, Suite 200-E
Locust Grove, Georgia 30248
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Senator Emanuel Jones
District 10
P.O. Box 370244
Decatur, Georgia 30037
(404) 656-0502

VETERANS, MILITARY AND HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

RULES - 2011

1. Quorum of the committee shall be four (4) members.
2. The Chairperson shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chairperson shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to subcommittees for study. Subcommittees in turn shall have authority to make recommendations on such measures to the full committee at such time as shall be designated by the chairperson. All actions of any subcommittee shall be approved or disapproved by the standing Committee.
4. The committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the chairperson.
5. A bill or resolution will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or other legislator whom he or she may designate. The principal author shall be the legislator whose name appears first on the list of authors.
6. Any member or members of the committee who disagrees with the majority report of the committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
7. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the committee.
8. Bills and resolutions, at the option of the Chairman, may be acted on at the first reading.
9. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public in accordance with Senate Rule [1-5.1].
10. The Secretary of the Committee will have a copy of these rules distributed to all members of the Senate.
11. Where these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern.

**Minutes of the
Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee
January 31, 2011**

The Veterans, Military & Homeland Security Committee was called to order at 2:07 p.m. in Room 125 of the Capitol, with Chairman Ed Harbison of the 15th presiding.

Members present:

Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman
Senator Barry Loudermilk, 52nd, Vice Chairman
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th
Senator Rick Jeffares, 17th
Senator Emanuel Jones, 10th

Member absent: Senator Robert Brown, 26th

Senator Harbison opened the meeting by welcoming committee members and guests, informing both committee members and guests that this was an organizational meeting to adopt the Rules and to take up **SB 18**.

Motion to adopt the Committee Rules was made by Senator Emanuel Jones of the 10th. Senator Gail Davenport of the 44th seconded the motion. The motion carried and the Rules were adopted.

SB 18 – (Senator Hill, 32nd) **State Defense Force; rights of public officers, employees; remove restrictions**

Under current law, all rights and duties imposed by military law or other state statutes relating to the National Guard and Reserves are extended to the State Defense Force except for Code Section 38-2-279, relating to rights of public officers and employees absent on military duty, and Code Section 38-2-280, relating to reemployment in private industry.

Senator Hill, 32nd, spoke to the bill. Senator Judson Hill explained that this legislation repeals these exceptions and grants members of the State Defense Force the same rights as members of the National Guard and Reserves.

After a brief discussion of the bill, Senator Barry Loudermilk of the 52nd suggested amending SB18 by adding on line 23 “and active members of the Civil Air Patrol who are taking part or engaged in official emergency services missions.” After further discussion from Senator Judson Hill and Senator Loudermilk, a motion was made by Senator Emanuel Jones that **SB 18 Do Pass by Substitute**. Senator Rick Jeffares seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman

/s/ Cyndi Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the
Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee
March 7, 2011**

The Veterans, Military & Homeland Security Committee was called to order at 4:17 p.m. in Room 123 of the Capitol, with Chairman Ed Harbison of the 15th presiding

Members present:

Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman
Senator Barry Loudermilk, 52nd, Vice Chairman
Senator Robert Brown, 26th, Secretary
Senator Gail Davenport, 44th
Senator Rick Jeffares, 17th
Senator Emanuel Jones, 10th

Senator Harbison opened the meeting by welcoming committee members and guests, and to take up [SB 77](#).

[SB 77](#) (Harbison, 15th) Administrative Services; specified preference; qualified business enterprises; disabled veterans; certain types of state contracts

The legislation requires DOAS to give a preference to any qualified bidder that is a qualified business enterprise in awarding contracts for the provision of the following types of goods and services:

1. Operation of commissaries for state operated correction facilities;
2. Inmate telephone companies; and
3. State correctional officer uniforms and accessories.

Process for Evaluating and Determining Qualified Business Enterprise Bids

For the purpose of evaluating and determining qualified business enterprise bids, 25 percent of the lowest bid (the bid that would otherwise receive the contract award if the preference were not being considered) will be deducted from all qualified business enterprise bids. If a responsive qualified business enterprise bid, minus the 25 percent preference, is less than the lowest bid, then the qualified business enterprise bidder will be declared the official lowest bidder. The original qualified business enterprise bid amount will be the basis of the contract award.

Senator Harbison, 15th, spoke to the bill. After giving a brief overview of the bill, the Chairman asked if there were questions on the bill.

There were several who spoke against the bill. These included:

Mr. Joe Kim, Department of Administrative Services
Mr. Brandon Hembree, Massey, Bowers & Hembree
Mr. Bob Mutusak, Georgia Commission of Blind Vendors
Mr. Keith Morris
Ms. MARRISA HEARTFORD
Mr. Zach Cochran
Mr. Bob Walls
Kim Harrison
Mr. Wayne Die
Mr. Charles Laser

Mr. Ellis Richeart

The discussion was lengthy by all parties and members thought the bill should be tweaked a little. Senator Harbison agreed to take the bill and make necessary changes and bring the bill back at a later date for a vote.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman

/s/ Cyndi Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the
Senate Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee
March 11, 2011**

The Veterans, Military & Homeland Security Committee was called to order at 9:57 a.m. in Room 123 of the Capitol, with Chairman Ed Harbison of the 15th presiding.

Members present:

Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman

Senator Gail Davenport, 44th

Senator Rick Jeffares, 17th

Senator Emanuel Jones, 10th

Members absent:

Senator Robert Brown, 26th

Senator Barry Loudermilk, 52nd

Senator Harbison opened the meeting by welcoming the committee members and guests, and to take up [SB 219](#).

[SB 219](#) (Harbison, 15th) Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children; adopt; provide for purpose/policy of said impact

This bill establishes a compact to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and the deployment of their parents. It is designed to bring states together to allow for the uniform treatment of military children who transfer between school districts and states. While states may already support military children, individual states can only control what happens inside their state borders. This compact allows for cooperation and uniform treatment in all member states.

The compact addresses the key issues encountered by military families: eligibility; educational records and enrollment; placement and attendance; and graduation. It also provides for a detailed governance structure at the state and national levels with both enforcement and compliance mechanisms.

The executive, legislative, and judicial branches in each member state are responsible for the enforcement of the compact. The compact becomes effective when at least 10 states become members.

The legislation also creates an "Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children," that will be responsible for the formation of public policy and rulemaking. Each state that enacts this compact will appoint one member to the Commission.

Senator Harbison, 15th, spoke to the bill. Senator Harbison explained that this bill was needed to support military families. There are 36 states that have passed this law.

After a brief discussion on the bill, a motion was made by Senator Davenport that [SB 219](#) **Do Pass**. Senator Rick Jeffares seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Ed Harbison, 15th, Chairman

/s/ Cyndi Williams, Recording Secretary

May 17, 2011

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

Dear Mr. Ewing:

Included with the minutes of the Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee meetings for the 2011 legislative session, I am returning the following Bills and Resolutions:

[SB 77](#)
[SR 521](#)

Sincerely,

/s/ Cyndi Williams
Recording Secretary
Veterans, Military and Homeland Security