

Senate Transportation Committee Members 2013

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Senate Transportation Committee Rules

2013-2014

1. All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public in accordance with Senate Rule [1-5.1].
2. The quorum for the Transportation Committee shall be seven (7) members.
3. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or 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 principal author shall be the one whose name appears first in the list of authors.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon order of the Chairman.
5. The Chairman shall determine which bills, amendments, and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which measures are considered.
6. The Chairman shall have sole 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. All actions of any subcommittee shall be approved or disapproved by the standing Committee.
7. These Rules may be amended or waived upon motion made and subsequently approved by a majority of the members of the Committee present at the meeting.
8. The Secretary of the Committee will have a copy of these rules distributed to all members of the Senate.
9. The recording of the minutes of the Committee and the Subcommittee shall comply with Senate Rule [2-1.7(d)].
10. The Rules of the Senate shall prevail in all matters not covered by Committee Rules.
11. Bills and resolutions, at the option of the Chairman, may be acted on at the first reading.
12. Senate Transportation Committee has adopted rules for road naming/dedication Ch. 3, Pg. 7, Rule (3-4.01).

Senate Transportation Subcommittees 2013

Roads & Bridges

Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Chairman
Senator Barry Loudermilk, 14th
Senator Tommie Williams, 19th
Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Ex-Officio

Intermodal & Transit

Senator Lindsey Tippins, 37th, Chairman
Senator Ronnie Chance, 16th
Senator Steve Thompson, 33rd
Senator Jason Carter, 42nd
Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Ex-Officio

Airports & Seaports

Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Chairman
Senator Ronnie Chance, 16th
Senator Steve Thompson, 33rd
Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Ex-Officio

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
January 31, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee had its first meeting on Thursday, January 31, 2013 at 2:09 p.m. in Room 450 State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Vice Chairman, Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Secretary, Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, Senator Ronnie Chance, 16th, Senator Ross Tolleson, 20th, and Senator Lindsey Tippins, 37th.

Chairman Gooch, 51st, welcomed Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, and also acknowledged former chairman Jeff Mullis, 53rd, and his assistant, Ms. Debra Charnote for their dedicated service to the Senate Transportation Committee. Chairman Gooch also introduced his assistant, Carlie Howard, and his aides, Meredith Hardin and Ben Jarrard.

Chairman Gooch asked for a motion to adopt the committee rules. Senator Tippins, 37th provided a motion and Senator Tolleson, 20th seconded. There was no opposition to the motion.

Chairman Gooch discussed the subcommittees. He added Senator Jason Carter, 42nd to the Intermodal Rail & Transit Subcommittee.

Chairman Gooch assigned the following Senate bills to the Roads and Bridges Subcommittee: [SB 70](#), [SB 71](#) and [SB 73](#).

Senator Carter, 42nd, commended the Georgia Department of Transportation for their rapid response to those hit by the hurricane.

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Subcommittee – Roads and Bridges
February 12, 2013

The Senate Transportation Roads and Bridges Subcommittee met on Tuesday, February 12, 2013 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 310 CLOB.

Subcommittee members present at the meeting were Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Chairman, Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, and Senator Barry Loudermilk, 14th.

SB 70, Gooch, 51st, Transportation, Dept. of; change type of projects eligible for design-build contracts and procurement process

Chairman Gooch, 51st, presented SB 70 to the subcommittee stating that the legislation would save money and time and would privatize services.

Senator Jackson, 24th, moved to pass the legislation. Senator Loudermilk, 14th, seconded.

SB 73, Albers, 56th, "Anti-T-SPLOST Penalty Act"; modify provisions

Chairman Gooch asked Senator Albers, 56th, to present his legislation for a hearing only. Senator Albers informed the committee that 113 counties voted against the TSPLOST referendum on the November 2012 ballot. He also mentioned that the penalty for not passing the TSPLOST referendum was not included with the ballot question. Senator Albers encouraged the committee to find solutions to build the public trust.

There was discussion among the members as to how to build public trust in local control. Chairman Gooch mentioned that the reasoning behind the 2010 TSPLOST legislation was to untie the congestion in Georgia.

Neill Herring, chapter lobbyist with the Sierra Club, provided his support of SB 73 recognizing that the most populous counties voted against it.

Jeff Hamling, Vice President of Federal Affairs with the Georgia Chamber, stated his opposition to SB 73.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
February 19, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Tuesday, February 19, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Vice Chairman, Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Secretary, Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, Senator Ronnie Chance, 16th, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, Ex-Officio, Senator Lindsey Tippins, 37th, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio, Senator Steve Thompson, 33rd, and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

Chairman Gooch, 51st, started the meeting by tabling [SB 130](#) and [SB 131](#). He then asked Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, for a report regarding the Roads and Bridges Subcommittee meeting. Chairman Beach, 21st, informed the full committee that SB 70 did pass the subcommittee and is ready to be considered by the full committee.

[SB 70](#), Gooch, 51st, Transportation, Dept. of; change type of projects eligible for design-build contracts and procurement process

Chairman Gooch, 51st, presented some highlights for SB 70 to the full committee.

Josh Waller, with the Georgia Department of Transportation, fully supports the legislation as it provides one more tool for delivery options.

Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, asked about the procurement process and the criteria for design build projects spelled out in the RFP (Request for Proposal).

David Moellering, with Georgia Highway Contractors, stated his support of the legislation.

Senator Miller, 49th, arrived at 4:42 pm.

Senator Jackson, 24th, motioned do pass by substitute. Senator Thompson, 33rd, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

[SB 70 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE](#)

[SR 73](#), James, 35th, Dekai Amonrasi Memorial Bridge; Fulton County; dedicate

Senator James, 35th, stated that Mr. Dekai Amonrasi was an active young man in the community and church. He lost his life trying to help someone in a car accident on the Roosevelt Highway Bridge.

Senator Seay, 34th, motioned do pass. Senator Miller, 49th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

SR 73 DO PASS

Senator Chance, 16th, arrived at 4:44 pm.

SR 96, Golden, 8th, Governor Melvin Ernest Thompson Memorial Highway; Lowndes County; dedicate

Senator Golden, 8th, mentioned Governor Melvin Thompson's involvement with the Three Governor's controversy.

Senator Thompson, 33rd motioned do pass. Senator Jackson, 24th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

SR 96 DO PASS

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
February 25, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Monday, February 25, 2013 at 4:03 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Vice Chairman, Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Secretary, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, Ex-Officio, Senator Barry Loudermilk, 14th, Senator Ross Tolleson, 20th, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio, and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

[HB 202](#), Representative Bubber Epps, 144th, Highways, bridges, and ferries; performing value engineering studies; provide requirements

Representative Epps, 144th, explained that this legislation mirrors changes in federal law for value engineering studies from \$10 million to \$15 million. He explained that Section 2 provides for an exemption from congressional balancing. It also exempts all interstate projects from congressional balancing. Section 3 allows for an annual commercial wrecker emergency tow permit for safety purposes.

Senator Jason Carter, 42nd arrived at 4:05 pm.

There was some discussion between the committee members and Josh Waller with the Department of Transportation regarding the wrecker permits. Senator Williams, 19th asked for a breakdown of how the value engineering studies will affect each congressional district.

Senator Tippins, 37th, arrived at 4:11 pm.

Senator Gooch said that they will postpone a vote on the legislation until the next meeting. He also put the following legislation into subcommittees:

- [SB 196](#) – Ramsey, 43rd – Roads and Bridges – Chairman Beach, 21st
- [HB 264](#) – Jacobs, 80th – Intermodal – Chairman Tippins, 37th
- [HB 265](#) – Jacobs, 80th – Intermodal – Chairman Tippins, 37th

The meeting adjourned at 4:31 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
February 27, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Monday, February 27, 2013 at 2:03 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Vice Chairman, Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, Senator Barry Loudermilk, 14th, Senator Ross Tolleson, 20th, Senator Steve Thompson, 33rd, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio, and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

HB 202, Epps, 144th, Highways, bridges, and ferries; performing value engineering studies; provide requirements

Representative Epps, 144th, informed the committee that Section 2 of HB 202 was removed due to the concerns from the committee members in the previous meeting in reference to the legislation having multiple subjects.

Senator Williams, 19th, motioned do pass by substitute. Senator Loudermilk, 14th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HB 202 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

SB 218, Gooch, 51st, Highways, Bridges and Ferries; annual commercial wrecker emergency tow permits; qualifications for issuance

Chairman Gooch explained that SB 218 was the exact wording from Section 3 of HB 202.

Senator Miller, 49th motioned do pass. Senator Carter, 42nd, gave a second. The legislation passed unanimously.

SB 218 DO PASS

The meeting adjourned at 2:08 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Steve Gooch, 51st
Chairman

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
March 4, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Monday, March 4, 2013 at 12:09 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, Secretary, Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, Senator Barry Loudermilk, 14th, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, Ex-Officio, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

SR 293, Gooch, 51st, Ralph A. Pierce Memorial Highway; Lumpkin County; dedicate

Chairman Gooch explained that this legislation was the culmination of the Senate Road and Bridge dedications. He also mentioned the need to amend the current legislation with an addition from Senator Miller honoring Ms. Beulah Rucker from Hall County.

Senator Carter, 42nd, motioned to so amend. Senator Loudermilk, 14th seconded. The amendment passed unanimously.

Senator Williams, 19th motioned do pass by substitute. Senator Seay, 34th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

SR 293 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

The meeting adjourned at 12:10 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
March 13, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, March 13, 2013 at 2:02 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Jason Carter, 42nd, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, Ex-Officio, Senator Ross Tolleson, 20th, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio, and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

Chairman Gooch invited Dr. Gena Evans, State Road and Tollway Authority Executive Director, to give a presentation to the committee regarding the upcoming changes to the 400 toll road.

Senator Brandon Beach, 21st, arrived at 2:06 pm.
Senator Lindsey Tippins, 37th, arrived at 2:10 pm.

HB 494, Welch, 110th, Mass transportation; installation of safety markers on utility lines to provide adequate visual warning in use of private airstrips; provide

Representative Welch, 110th, explained his legislation stating it creates a voluntary process by which private land owners that wish to put markers on utility lines located on their property may do so.

Senator Carter, 42nd, noticed a misspelled word on line 27 and moved to amend the legislation. Senator Williams, 19th gave a second to the amendment. The move to amend the legislation passed unanimously.

Senator Williams, 19th, moved do pass by substitute. Senator Carter, 42nd seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HB 494 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

HB 486, Roberts, 155th, Weight of vehicles; issuance of annual commercial wrecker emergency tow permits; provide qualifications

Chairman Gooch presented the legislation on behalf of Representative Roberts.

Senator Carter, 42nd, moved do pass. Senator Seay, 34th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HB 486 DO PASS

HB 384, Roberts, 155th, Transportation, Department of; local governing authority designating public streets or portions thereof for combined use of motorized carts and regular vehicle traffic; modify provisions

Chairman Gooch also presented HB 384 on Representative Roberts' behalf.

Senator Jackson, 24th, moved do pass. Senator Tolleson, 20th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HB 384 DO PASS

The meeting adjourned at 2:44 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

Minutes
Senate Transportation Committee
March 20, 2013

The Senate Transportation Committee met on Wednesday, March 20, 2013 at 4:10 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol.

Committee members present at the meeting were Senator Steve Gooch, 51st, Chairman, Senator Butch Miller, 49th, Vice Chairman, Senator Brandon Beach 21st, Secretary, Senator Bill Jackson, 24th, Ex-Officio, Senator Valencia Seay, 34th, Ex-Officio, and Senator Tommie Williams, 19th.

HR 46, Holt, 112th, Pierce Lovett Cline Memorial Bridge; Newton County; dedicate

Chairman Gooch explained that this was one of the road dedication resolutions from the House.

Senator Williams, 19th, motioned do pass by substitute. Senator Jackson, 24th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HR 46 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

HR 411, Hightower, 68th, Trooper Lieutenant Joseph "Joey" Keith Boatright Memorial Bridge; Carroll County; dedicate

Chairman Gooch stated that this was another road dedication bill from the House. This one is specific in honoring our fallen state troopers.

Senator Jackson, 24th, motioned do pass. Senator Seay, 34th, seconded. The legislation passed unanimously.

HR 411 DO PASS

Senator Tippins, 37th, arrived at 4:14 pm.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Brandon Beach, 21st
Secretary

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary

May 1, 2013

Mr. Bob Ewing
Secretary of the Senate
Georgia State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Mr. Ewing:

I herewith submit the bills remaining in the Senate Transportation Committee for the 2013 Session of the General Assembly.

These bills are as follows:

[SB 71](#), Hill, 32nd, Transportation, Dept. of; procedures for utilizing design-build contracts; provisions; expand the selection process

[SB 73](#), Albers, 56th, "Anti-T-SPLOST Penalty Act"; modify provisions

[SB 90](#), Gooch, 51st, Governor's Development Council; periodic submission of certain information by state, regional, and local transportation authorities

[SB 130](#), Gooch, 51st, Transportation, Dept. of; requirements for performing value engineering studies

[SB 131](#), Gooch, 51st, Public Roads; provide for criteria for the allocation of federal/state funds by the Dept. of Transportation

[SB 154](#), Fort, 39th, State Transportation Board; meetings to elect board members open to public

[SB 196](#), Ramsey, 43rd, State Road and Tollway Authority; authorize motorcycles to operate in toll lanes/toll roads without payment of a toll

[SB 255](#), Hill, 6th, "Partnership for Public Facilities and Infrastructure Act"; enact

[SR 73](#), James, 35th, Dekai Amonrasi Memorial Bridge; Fulton County; dedicate

[SR 96](#), Golden, 8th, Governor Melvin Ernest Thompson Memorial Highway; Lowndes County; dedicate

[SR 379](#), Gooch, 51st, Judge William Jeffrey Lowe Memorial Intersection; Lumpkin County; dedicate

[SR 383](#), Mullis, 53rd, Sergeant John A. Franklin Memorial Intersection; Catoosa County; dedicate

[SR 418](#), Ligon, 3rd, F.J. Torras Causeway; Glynn County; dedicate

[SR 579](#), Dugan, 30th, Pleasant Eugene Holt Memorial Highway; Paulding/Carroll County; dedicate

[SR 579](#), Dugan, 30th, Pleasant Eugene Holt Memorial Highway; Paulding/Carroll County; dedicate

[SR 613](#), Mullis, 53rd, Georgia Dept. of Transportation; urge to extend State Route 341 north to Georgia/Tennessee; include McFarland Ave. in Rossville, Georgia

[HB 264](#), Jacobs, 80th, Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Act of 1965; extensively revise

[HB 265](#), Jacobs, 80th, Mass transportation; suspension of restrictions on the use of annual proceeds from sales and use taxes by public transit authorities; repeal provisions

Sincerely,

/s/ Carlie Howard
Recording Secretary
Senate Transportation Committee