

**SENATE INTERSTATE COOPERATION COMMITTEE ROSTER**

**2014 Legislative Session**

**Senator Hardie Davis**

**Chairman**

District 22

P.O. Box 6389

Augusta, GA 30916

**Senator Freddie Powell Sims**

**Vice-Chairman**

District 12

5377 Goose Hollow Road

Dawson, GA 31742

**Senator Emanuel Jones**

**Secretary**

District 10

P.O. Box 370244

Decatur, GA 30037

**Senator Vincent Fort**

District 39

121-J State Capitol

Atlanta, GA 30334

**Senator Ed Harbison**

District 15

P.O. Box 1292

Columbus, GA 31902

## **RULES**

### **Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee**

#### **2014 Legislative Session**

**Introduction:**

Each member of the Committee should be mindful of the Senate Rules especially regarding attendance.

1. A quorum of the Committee shall be 3 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 at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
4. The Committee shall reconvene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
5. A bill or resolution will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or other legislator whose name appears first or second on the list of authors or co-sponsors, unless the author or co-sponsor has made other arrangements with the Chairman.
6. No member of the Committee shall be allowed to vote by proxy.
7. Members may not abstain from voting unless the member or any member of the Senator's immediate family has a direct pecuniary interest in the result of such vote which interest is distinct, unique or peculiar to the Senator or the Senator's immediate family.
8. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
9. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
10. Where these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern.

**Minutes**  
**Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee**  
**Wednesday, March 5, 2014**  
**125 State Capitol**

Chairman Davis called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Hardie Davis, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Chairman  
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, 12<sup>th</sup>, Vice-Chairman  
Senator Emanuel Jones, 10<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

This was the first meeting of the Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee of the 2014 Legislative Session. Chairman Davis introduced himself and welcomed committee members, staff, and guests. Chairman Davis asked Jones of the 10<sup>th</sup> to open the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting began with discussion and adoption of the committee rules for the 2014 Legislative Session. Motion “do pass” was made by Jones of the 10<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup>. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**HB 898 (Pak, 108<sup>th</sup>- Interstate Compact for Juveniles; enact**

This bill was presented by Rep. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup>. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> explained that currently Georgia is the last state to pass the revised pact between the states, and this means that the state of Georgia is currently missing out on important information regarding juvenile delinquents from other states. If a juvenile delinquent moves from another state to Georgia the state of Georgia does not receive their background history. The only way to find out if they have a previous criminal track history is if they are arrested within the state of Georgia. The state of Georgia is also currently unable to send juveniles back to their former states unless the state wishes to spare out of pocket expenses to send the juvenile back to their former state. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> discussed specifically Section 5 of HB 898, which was discussed by the Interstate Cooperation Committee last year. Section 5 Part B of HB 898 discusses staff appointments and states how official positions are assigned for the Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner.

Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup> asked Pak why there was a \$28,000.00 fee. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> explained that this fee would help fund the program, pay for hiring, staff, and any other necessary expenses. Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup> asked if funding was solely provided by each state or territory and Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> answered that it was mainly funded nationally. Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup> asked where headquarters were located but Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> did not know.

Chairman Davis introduced the members of the audience who were interested in this type of legislation. John Smith, of the Juvenile Court of Justice, and Polly McKinny, Advocacy Director for Voices for Georgia’s Children, greeted the committee.

John Smith answered Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup>'s previous question about where the headquarters location was and John Smith stated that headquarters were located in Kentucky.

Chairman Davis at this time noted that Georgia's Commission had not been discussed. John Smith explained that the amount of \$28,000 is based on population, Georgia's population is comparable to Ohio's population and therefore the estimate was based on what Ohio pays. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> noted that how the state council is formed is articulated in Article 9, and explains that the state council would need a representative from the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government.

Chairman Davis asked the committee members and audience for any further questions. Jones of 10<sup>th</sup> asked if the Governor will have to sign the legislation if it passes in the Senate. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> explained that this bill will make Georgia members of the Juvenile Pact and that it does not need the Governor's signature to become law and further explains that it only needs to pass in the Senate to become law as it has already passed in the House. Jones of the 10<sup>th</sup> addressed the budget again and wanted to know if funds are coming from the State or from a specific department. Pak of the 108<sup>th</sup> responded that funds will be coming from the Juvenile Justice Department. John Smith further explained that the Juvenile Justice Department already handles Juvenile cases but it makes tracking juveniles that come to our state easier and it will also streamline costs. John Smith explained that currently if a Juvenile delinquent comes to the state of Georgia and then needs to be sent back to their home state, there are no funds set aside for those costs and in the end it makes the process more expensive and difficult and if Georgia were part of the Juvenile Pact it would streamline this whole process and there would be funds specifically for the purpose of transporting juveniles back to the proper location. Jones of the 10<sup>th</sup> asked where these funds will come from and John Smith explained that that will be included in current operating costs.

Chairman Davis entertained a motion adding that he believes this to be good legislation. A "do pass" motion was made by Jones of the 10<sup>th</sup>, seconded by Sims of the 12<sup>th</sup>. **The motion passed unanimously (LC 29 5840ER/a).**

**[HB 898 DO PASS](#)**

There being no further business, Chairman Davis adjourned the meeting at 2:22 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted

/s/ Senator Jones, 10<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Jessica Cady  
Recording Secretary