

**Senate Public Safety Committee Members  
2014**

Senator Buddy Carter, *Chairman*  
406 Purple Finch Drive  
Pooler, Georgia 31322

Senator John Albers, *Vice Chairman*  
885 Woodstock Road #215, Suite 430  
Roswell, Georgia 30075

Senator Tyler Harper, *Secretary*  
P.O. Box 798  
Ocilla, Georgia 31774

Senator Gloria S. Butler  
6241 Southland Trace  
Stone Mountain, Georgia 30087

Senator Bill Jackson  
P.O. Box 528  
Appling, Georgia 30802

Senator Jack Murphy  
3830 Adams Road  
Cumming, Georgia 30041

Senator Valencia Seay  
P.O. Box 960008  
Riverdale, Georgia 30274

## **2014 Senate Public Safety Committee Rules**

1. A quorum of the Committee shall be five (5) 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 24 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, provided that written notice has been given to the Committee 48 hours prior to the Committee meeting.
8. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after the 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. The rules of the Senate shall prevail in all matters not covered by these Committee rules.

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
1/23/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Thursday, 1/23/2014, in room 125 of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup> Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman	None	None

This meeting began with an organizational overview, providing an explanation of the Public Safety Committee Rules by Chairman Carter. Chairman Carter proceeded with the introduction of staff that would assist the Senate Public Safety Committee for the 2014 Session.

Following the completion of organizational announcements, the committee took up the only bill scheduled on the agenda, **SB 298**. Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> presented a brief summary of the bill's newly included subsection.

**SB 298 (Jack Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup>): License plates; submission of a doctor's prescription; application for a special parking decal for persons with disabilities in lieu of an affidavit; notary public not available**

This bill relates to special license plate decals for individuals with disabilities. The bill is amended by adding a new subsection stating, the Department of Driver Services shall accept, in lieu of an affidavit, a signed and dated statement from the doctor which includes the same information as required in an affidavit written upon security paper.

There was no public comment.

Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> made the first motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Rep. Rice, 95<sup>th</sup> will carry it in the House.

**SB 298 DO PASS**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 1:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
2/4/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Tuesday, 2/4/2014, in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup> Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	None	None	None

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up the only bill listed on the agenda, SB 305. Senator Tippins, 37<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill's substitute which would codify a practice the fire marshal's office encouraged and would hold inspectors at the state and local level more accountable.

**SB 305 (Lindsey Tippins, 37<sup>th</sup>): Fire protection and safety; written notification prior to the denial of a permit; buildings/structures required to meet the state minimum fire safety standards**

This bill relates to regulation for fire protection and safety. The substitute provides that a written notification must be supplied prior to the denial of a permit for buildings and structures required to meet the minimum fire safety standards.

<b>Testified for SB 305</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Dwayne Garris	Georgia State Fire Marshal
Mark Woodall	Association of General Contractors

Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> made the first motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 7-0. Representative Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup> will carry the bill in the House.

**SB 305 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 3:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
2/6/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Thursday, 2/6/2014, in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 1:40 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup>	None	Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman 2:04 p.m.

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up the only bill listed on the agenda, SB 323. Senator Hill, 6<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill which was described as a cleanup bill to address driving test, proof of license, and hardship issues. The overall goal of the bill was to provide more efficient services to the Department of Driving Services' customers. The bill's substitute clarified distinction between driving knowledge and driving skills tests, removes authority from the Department of Driver Services to allow driver training schools to issue driver's licenses, provides for additional methods for demonstrating proof of driver's license to law enforcement, expands definition of "extreme hardship" to allow employees with restricted licenses to drive to perform work duties, and removes provisions on permits requiring use of an ignition interlock device.

**SB 323 (Hunter Hill, 6<sup>th</sup>): Driver's licenses; authorize Department of Driver Services to conduct certain tests of license applicants**

This bill provides that the Department of Driver Services may allow schools to administer the driver knowledge portion of the driver's license test and offer driver's education courses. Secondly, the bill aims to provide added convenience by permitting drivers to show proof of driver's license through alternative means, such as a mobile phone picture, without having to carry a physical license. Additionally, the substitute provides that law enforcement cannot search a cell phone presented for proof of driver's

license and further clarifies that a physical driver's license is required to show proof of age for voting and private use, such as purchasing alcohol.

<b>Testified for SB 323</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Mike Mitchell	Department of Driver Services

Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0.

**SB 323 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary



**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
2/18/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Tuesday, 2/18/2014, in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup>	Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman 4:04 p.m.	Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman 4:28 p.m.

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up two bills on the agenda, SB 166 and HB 365. Senator Miller, 49<sup>th</sup> spoke on the amendment to SB 166 which would increase the number of custom-designed motor vehicles that could be sold in Georgia from 150 to 250 by a particular manufacturer in a single year.

**SB 166 (Butch Miller, 49<sup>th</sup>): Selling/other trade practices; motor vehicles; custom design specifications; modify provisions**

This bill relates to restrictions on ownership, operation, or control of dealerships by manufacturers and franchisers and competing unfairly with new dealers, so as to modify provisions relating to manufacturers selling a limited number of new motor vehicles to customers with custom design specifications.

<b>Testified for SB 166</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Bruce Bowers	Tesla Motors

Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0.

**SB 166 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

Following the vote on SB 166, the committee took up the final piece of legislation on the agenda, HB 365. Representative Hitchens, 161<sup>st</sup> spoke on the bill which would expand mandatory seatbelt law to all vehicles capable of carrying up to fifteen passengers.

**HB 365 (Bill Hitchens, 161<sup>st</sup>): Safety belts; definition of the term “passenger vehicle” to which the safety belt law applies; modify**

This bill relates to the use of safety belts in passenger vehicles so as to modify the definition of the term “passenger vehicle” to which safety belt law applies and expands mandatory seatbelt law to all vehicles capable of carrying up to fifteen passengers.

<b>Testified for HB 365</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Rusi Patel	Georgia Municipal Association
Amanda Cook	Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta

Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0.

**HB 365 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
2/20/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Thursday, 2/20/2014, in room 125 of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup>	None	None

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up the only bill on the agenda, SB 323. This bill was passed out of this committee on February 6<sup>th</sup>; however the Department of Public Safety expressed concern over provisions in the original bill permitting a driver to carry a digital photograph of their license on a mobile device in lieu of carrying the physical license. Senator Hill, 6<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill and explained the newly revised amendment that had been included, which was the result of an agreement between Senator Hill, 6<sup>th</sup> and the Department of Driver Services to delete the language that would permit the previous provision. In turn, the Department of Public Safety expressed support for the bill, as amended.

**SB 323 (Hunter Hill, 6<sup>th</sup>): Driver’s licenses; authorize Department of Driver Services to conduct certain tests of license applicants**

This bill clarifies the distinction between driving knowledge and driving skills tests, removes authority from the Department of Driver Services (DDS) to allow driver training schools to issue driver’s licenses, and provides for additional methods for demonstrating proof of a driver’s license to law enforcement by showing a DDS-provided receipt.

There was no public comment.

Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0.

**SB 323 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7th, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
3/6/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Thursday, 3/6/2014, in room 125 of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 1:39 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup> Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	None	Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Arrived at 1:51 p.m.	Jackson, 24 <sup>th</sup> Departed at 2:41 p.m. Murphy, 27 <sup>th</sup> Departed at 2:41 p.m.

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up the first of many bills listed on the agenda, which were taken in the order as follows: HB 877, HB 803, HB 88, HB 566, HB 827, HB 878, HB 753, HB 881, HB 762, and HB 459. The first bill discussed after the call to order was HB 877. Representative Roberts, 155<sup>th</sup> spoke on the purpose of the bill, which was a product of a city-county task force to determine a proper way to regulate golf carts and other PTVs. It was noted that the three largest manufacturers of PTVs have operations in Georgia and that clarifying rules for use of PTVs could accelerate sales of the vehicles. There was an amendment added at the request of the Department of Revenue to clarify the definition of “manufacturer”. The amendment was mutually agreed upon by all involved parties (Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, Georgia Municipal Association, and Department of Revenue).

**HB 877 (Jay Roberts, 155<sup>th</sup>): Motor vehicles; local authorities’ ability to regulate use of personal transportation vehicles on roadways and designated paths and lanes; provide**

This bill provides the ability for local authorities to regulate the use of personal transportation vehicles on roadways and designated paths and lanes.

<b>Testified for HB 877</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Jason Larkin	The Department of Revenue

Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> made the motion to adopt the amendment and Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0.

Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Gooch, 51<sup>st</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

#### **HB 877 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

The next piece of legislation the committee took up was HB 803. Representative Benton, 31<sup>st</sup> spoke on the bill which would require law enforcement agencies to develop written policies outlining officer encounters with dangerous animals.

#### **HB 803 (Tommy Benton, 31<sup>st</sup>): Law enforcement agencies; develop policies addressing how police officers shall negotiate their encounters with domesticated pet animals; require**

This bill requires law enforcement agencies to develop policies addressing how peace officers shall negotiate their encounters with domesticated pet animals.

There was no public comment.

Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> offered the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was 3-1. Yeas: Butler, 55<sup>th</sup>, Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, and Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup>. Nay: Seay, 34<sup>th</sup>. Senator Wilkinson, 50<sup>th</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

#### **HB 803 DO PASS**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 88. Representative Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill which would permit certified volunteer firefighters to receive Class E and Class F drivers' licenses (for emergency vehicles) free of charge. The bill would help municipalities manage liability if all firefighters are properly certified and licensed.

#### **HB 88 (Jason Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup>): Licenses; Class E and Class F drivers' license free of charge to qualified volunteer firefighters; provide**

This bill provides for qualified volunteer firefighters Class E and Class F drivers' licenses, which are necessary to drive emergency vehicles, free of charge.

Testified for HB 88	Organization
Les Hammond	The Department of Driver Services

Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Carter, 1<sup>st</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**[HB 88](#) DO PASS**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 566. Representative Pak, 108<sup>th</sup> spoke on HB 566 which would permit mechanics to perform test drives following vehicle emissions tests as long as the mechanic has a recently dated work order.

**[HB 566](#) (B.J. Pak, 108<sup>th</sup>): Motor vehicles; temporary transporter license plates available to permit mechanics to test drive certain vehicles being serviced or repaired; make**

This bill would make temporary transporter license plates available to motor vehicle mechanics to permit mechanics to test drive certain motor vehicles being serviced or repaired.

There was no public comment.

Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Miller, 49<sup>th</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**[HB 566](#) DO PASS**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 827. Representative Mabra, 63<sup>rd</sup> spoke on the bill which would allow Class D license holders (drivers 16 years old) to drive between 5 a.m. and midnight. Bill was designed to aid students who have activities and classes that begin before normal school hours.

**[HB 827](#) (Ronnie Mabra, 63<sup>rd</sup>): Motor vehicles and traffic; Class D license holder prohibited from driving a Class C motor vehicle on public roads, streets, or highways; revise time**

This bill would revise time that a Class D license holder is prohibited from driving a Class C motor vehicle on the public roads, streets, or highways of this state.

There was no public comment.

Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Butler, 55<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Jones, 25<sup>th</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**[HB 827](#) DO PASS**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 878. Representative Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup> spoke on the bill which would allow reasonable fees for storage and removal of an abandoned vehicle to be included in amount of lien held by person who removes or stores an abandoned vehicle. Originally, the bill provided for “all” costs to be included in amount of lien. The American Insurance Association requested the bill be revised to hold the original language of the statute, allowing for inclusion of only reasonable costs in the amount of the lien.

**HB 878 (Alan Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup>): Motor vehicles; certain fees included in liens upon abandoned vehicles; provide**

This bill relates to general provisions for abandoned motor vehicles, so as to provide that certain fees may be included in liens upon abandoned motor vehicles and would provide for the disposition of proceeds from the public sale of an abandoned motor vehicle.

Testified for HB 878	Organization
Bobby Potter	The American Insurance Association

Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> made the motion to adopt the amendment and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. Vote was unanimous and the motion was adopted.

Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Mullis, 53<sup>rd</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 878 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 753. Representative Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup> spoke on the bill pertaining to tire chain requirements for declared state of emergency during inclement weather conditions and prohibited interstate travel. There was a great deal of discussion concerning two amendments that were proposed by Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>.

There was no public comment.

After much debate and feelings of indecision towards the amendments, Chairman Carter made the decision to table HB 753 until the next Senate Public Safety meeting.

**HB 753 TABLED IN COMMITTEE**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 881. Representative Epps, 144<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill which creates a special license plate for Grady Health Foundation and adjusts fees and allocation of fees from current special plates benefitting wildlife programs. The bill returns fee structure and allocation for wildlife plates to system that was utilized prior to economic downturn, which included wildlife preservation programs. The Department of Natural Resources and its divisions



need increased funds to protect additional species that are now identified as endangered and to defend litigation regarding its conservation and wildlife protection efforts.

**HB 881 (Bubber Epps, 144<sup>th</sup>): Special license plates; Grady Health Foundation; provide**

This bill provides special license plates for the Grady Health Foundation and for promoting and supporting beneficial projects or entities.

Testified for HB 881	Organization
Jason Rooks	The Georgia Conservancy
Mark Whitney	The Department of Natural Resources

Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Butler, 55<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was 3-1, Yeas: Albers, 56<sup>th</sup>, Butler, 55<sup>th</sup> and Seay, 34<sup>th</sup>. Nay: Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>. Senator Mullis, 53<sup>rd</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 881 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 762. Representative Harrell, 106<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill which establishes procedures for passing sanitation vehicles on side of road when workers are present. The bill required similar passing procedures as the Spencer Pass Move over Law passed in 2011 for HERO vehicles.

**HB 762 (Brett Harrell, 106<sup>th</sup>): Motor vehicles and traffic; procedure for passing sanitation vehicles; provide**

This bill provides a procedure for motor vehicles to pass sanitation vehicles.  
There was no public comment.

Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0. Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 762 DO PASS**

The next piece of legislation taken up was HB 459. Representative Hitchens, 161<sup>st</sup> spoke on the bill titled “Slow Poke” driver bill, which would prohibit drivers from continuing in a “passing lane” once the driver becomes aware that he/she is being overtaken by a driver from behind. The bill followed a statute passed in New Jersey requiring vehicles to trend right when driving.

**HB 459 (Bill Hitchens, 161<sup>st</sup>): Speed restrictions; impeding traffic flow and minimum speed in left-hand lanes; modify provisions**

This bill modifies provisions pertaining to speed restrictions relating to impeding traffic flow and minimum speed in left-hand lanes.

There was no public comment.

Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0. Senator Mullis, 53<sup>rd</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 459 DO PASS**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7th, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
3/11/2014**

A meeting of the Senate Public Safety Committee was held on Tuesday, 3/11/2014, in room 125 of the State Capitol. Chairman Carter called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

<b>Members Present</b>	<b>Members Absent</b>	<b>Late Arrivals</b>	<b>Early Departures</b>
Carter of the 1 <sup>st</sup> , Chairman Albers of the 56 <sup>th</sup> , Vice Chairman Butler of the 55 <sup>th</sup> Jackson of the 24 <sup>th</sup> Murphy of the 27 <sup>th</sup> Seay of the 34 <sup>th</sup>	None	Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Arrived at 2:08 p.m.	Harper of the 7 <sup>th</sup> , Secretary Departed at 2:40 p.m.

This meeting began with opening remarks from Chairman Carter. The committee then proceeded to take up one of two bills on the agenda, HB 872. Representative Rogers, 10<sup>th</sup> spoke on the bill which would provide privileged communications between law enforcement officers and peer counselors. It was brought on behalf of the Department of Public Safety and stated peer counselors receive a national certification for officer to officer trauma and stress counseling. The officer emphasized that many officers suffer from post-traumatic stress which can lead to problems at home, with depression and alcoholism, which could potentially lead to domestic violence or suicide.

**HB 872 (Terry Rogers, 10<sup>th</sup>): This bill creates privileged communication between law enforcement officers and peer counselors under certain circumstances.**

<b>Testified for HB 872</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Officer	The Georgia State Patrol

Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS** and Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 6-0. Senator Mullis, 53<sup>rd</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 872 DO PASS**

The Senate Public Safety Committee took up the final bill to be addressed during the 2014 Legislative Session, HB 753, which had been tabled during the previous meeting on 3/6/2014. Representative Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup> spoke on HB 753. The committee discussed Amendment number two and debated whether the issuance of fines of up to \$1,000 was reasonable.

**HB 753 (Alan Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup>): Motor vehicles and traffic; federal regulatory requirements; provide**

This bill pertains to motor vehicles and traffic, providing federal regulatory requirements. It revises the code by adding that access to roads may be closed or limited to certain motor vehicles due to a declared state of emergency for inclement weather conditions. Additionally, the bill requires motor coach operators to affix tire chains to at least two wheels before driving on a road with limited access due to the declared state of emergency for inclement weather conditions. The bill further revised the code by restricting use of controlled-access roadways.

Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> made the first motion to adopt Amendment number one and Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion to adopt. The vote was unanimous, 6-0, motion adopted.

Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> made the next motion to adopt Amendment number two and Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion to adopt. The vote was 4-3, motion adopted. Yeas: Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup>, Chairman Carter, 1<sup>st</sup>, Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup>. Nays: Senator Butler, 55<sup>th</sup>, Senator Jackson, 24<sup>th</sup>, and Senator Murphy, 27<sup>th</sup>

There was no public comment.

Senator Albers, 56<sup>th</sup> made the motion to **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE** and Senator Seay, 34<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous, 5-0. Senator Harper, 7<sup>th</sup> will carry the bill in the Senate.

**HB 753 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE**

There being no further business to conduct, Chairman Carter adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Tyler Harper, 7<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

/s/ Abigail Thompson, Recording Secretary

April 16, 2014

Mr. David Cook  
Secretary of the Senate  
353 State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Mr. Cook:

The following bills remained in the Senate Public Safety Committee at the close of the 2014 Session:

[SB 15](#) (James, 35th)  
[SB 58](#) (James, 35th)  
[SB 74](#) (Loudermilk, 14th)  
[SB 84](#) (Gooch, 51st)  
[SB 110](#) (Tate, 38th)  
[SB 119](#) (Thompson, 5th)  
[SB 124](#) (Davenport, 44th)  
[SB 138](#) (Ramsey, 43rd)  
[SB 407](#) (Davis, 22nd)

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Abigail Thompson  
Recording Secretary