

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY ROSTER - 2015**

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
303-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
324-A Coverdell Legislative Office Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
109 State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
321-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)  
420-A State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met for the first time for the 2015 Legislative Session in Room 318 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 27, 2015.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) introduced all senators and allowed them to talk about their interest in and history with the Committee.

The proposed Committee Rules were examined.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to adopt the Committee Rules. Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0). A copy of the Rules is attached.

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY RULES**

**2015-2016**

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 Science and Technology Committee shall be three (3) members.
3. 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.
4. The Chairman shall have the 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.
5. The committee shall convene recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
6. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.
7. 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.
8. These rules may be amended or waived upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by a quorum of the Committee, in a meeting called by the Chairman.
9. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he or she designated 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.
10. When these rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building on Thursday, January 29, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:25 p.m.

**[HR 103](#) (Rep. Setzler, 35<sup>th</sup>, LC 106 0046) Georgia's Day of Coding; December 10; recognize**

Rep. Mike Dudgeon (25<sup>th</sup>) presented HR 103.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

**HR 103 DO PASS**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, February 3, 2015 in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

### **SR 74 (Sen. James, 35<sup>th</sup>, LC 108 0081) Minority Owned Plasma Centers; encouraging the development**

Sen. Donzella James (35<sup>th</sup>), the author of SR 74, presented the resolution.

Dr. Burquan Stafford, founder of CP Plasma Center Inc., spoke for the resolution.  
No one spoke against the resolution.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

### **SR 74 DO PASS**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY**

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 10, 2015.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, was absent.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) arrived at 1:23pm

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

No bills or resolutions were discussed.

### **Presentation: Innovation and Entrepreneurship was done by Georgia Tech Students.**

Dene Sheheane, Vice President of the Georgia Tech Office of Government and Community Affairs, introduced the students and their projects.

Entrepreneurship Team for FIXD:

John Gattuso – Mechanical Engineering Student  
Rachel Ford – Bio-medical Engineering Student

Entrepreneurship Team for the Sucette Smart Soother:

Rachel Ford – Bio-medical Engineering Student  
Frederick Grinn – Industrial Engineering Student

Dene Sheheane called on John Gattuso to present his Start-Up company, FIXD

### **SUMMARY**

- The idea of the company was created through a new class called Start-Up Lab. This class is offered through Venture Labs, the in-house incubator program at Georgia Tech.
- FIXD aims to provide vehicle diagnostics to drivers. The company's goal is to relieve driver concerns when the check engine light appears in their vehicle.
- FIXED was accepted into the Summer Startup Program at Georgia Tech. The program provides \$15,000, mentorship, and work space. This allows students to further build their own startup company and product.

- FIXD has raised \$40,000 through Kickstarter, a crowd-funding platform. These funds have allowed FIXD to expand its team and begin to develop its mobile platform.
- Currently, FIXD is available on the Android platform. An iOS platform will be released shortly.
- Won Cisco Internet of Everything Challenge 2015.

Dene Sheheane called on Rachel Ford and Frederick Grinn to present their Start-Up company, The Sucette Smart Soother.

## **SUMMARY**

- The Sucette Smart Soother is a pacifier that detects when an infant has a fever. The company's goal is to assist parents in diagnosing infants and provide an ease of mind to parents.
- The product won the Georgia Tech Invention Product Competition. The competition provided a free utility patent filing (due to pacifiers being FDA-regulated) and funding.
- The Sucette Smart Soother was accepted into the Summer Startup Program at Georgia Tech. The program provides \$15,000, mentorship, and work space. This allows students to further build their own startup company and product.
- The Sucette Smart Soother received additional funding from the Atlanta Clinical and Translational Science Institution to continue consumer product safety testing, which is necessary for FDA approval.
- The product won an accolade under Top 100 Global Startups for Entrepreneurs under the age of 25.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) asked if the members of the Committee had any questions or comments. Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>), and Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) expressed their congratulations for their achievements. Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) inquired about how each company came up with their name. John Gattuso created the company name in high school. Rachel Ford created the company name while conducting a marketing test. Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) asked what each group's relationship with Atlanta Tech Village was and what the legislature could do to assist their efforts and those of others. Rachel Ford answered the first question by stating that Atlanta Tech Village was too far away for Georgia Tech Students to use. The students are grateful for entities such as Venture Labs and ATDC, which are located closer to students at Tech Square. Frederick Grinn answered the second question by stating that he himself was drawn to Georgia Tech due to the growing entrepreneurship programs to educate students. His answer for the legislature is to fund entrepreneurship programs and to make sure students have more opportunities to create businesses.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) congratulated the groups on their accomplishments and noted that the state is making efforts to rebrand from the Peach State to something more attractive. This rebranding will assist in attracting investment money and people to the intellectual

property and talent in the state. Regardless, both the private sector and the government have to come together to make this rebranding effort come to fruition.

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary



## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building on Tuesday, February 17, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) was absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**SB 89** (Sen. Albers, 56<sup>th</sup>, LC 33 5871) "**Digital Classroom Act**"; **require instructional materials and content to be in digital or electronic format after a certain date**

Sen. John Albers (56<sup>th</sup>), the author of SB 89, presented the bill to the Committee.

No one spoke for or against the bill.

Sen. Albers (56<sup>th</sup>) said the devices do not have to be online at all times to access the electronic textbooks on the devices. The senator also states that all schools in the State of Georgia by July 2015 will have high-speed internet.

Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

### **SB 89 DO PASS**

**There was a joint presentation with Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia on their Agricultural and Technology Initiatives.**

Dr. Scott Angle and Mr. Doug Britton were the presenters.

Dr. Scott Angle, Dean of the College of Agriculture and Environmental Science at the University of Georgia, presented the following summary.

### **SUMMARY**

- There is a growing global demand for food due to population growth and the increase of people escaping poverty. The middle income group demand more food and a better quality of food compared to those in poverty.

- The Southeast will see an increase in food production due to temperature, rainfall, and sunlight conditions.
- The State of Georgia makes \$18 billion in revenue from Farm Gate (when foods and fibers leave the farm). By the time these products reach the household, it is an \$80 billion industry.
- The College of Agriculture and Environmental Science assisted in creating the \$240 million blueberry industry in the state by developing blueberry varieties and management philosophies.
- The main challenges to the agricultural industry are the limits of land and water.
- Collaboration between the two great schools, Georgia Tech and the University of Georgia, will create both new ideas and technologies to increase food production.

Doug Britton, Program Manager of the Agricultural Technology Research Program at Georgia Tech, presented the following summary.

#### **SUMMARY**

- The new initiative between both schools will create a formal mechanism and partnership for technological interactions. The primary objective is to lead the nation in agricultural technology.
- The three components to the initiative are leveraging existing collaborations, expanding core research areas, and asking big questions.
- Previous interactions between the schools have been between professors in the areas of poultry processing and agro-robotics. There will be a push for departmental interactions.
- Core research areas include big data and analysis, bio-engineering and bio-science, systems engineering, robotic, electronics, and nano-technology.
- The big questions the initiative hopes to answer is what will modern agriculture look like and what will Georgia's role be in shaping the future of agriculture.
- The broader impacts which the initiative hopes to achieve is to strengthen existing agricultural enterprises by infusing them with innovation and to encourage start-ups to create technology and jobs.
- The two goals of the initiative are to build a partnership that pursues these grand challenges and to position Georgia as the leader when it comes to agricultural technology.

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 19, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) arrived at 1:21pm.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**SB 113** (Sen. McKoon, 29<sup>th</sup>, LC 39 0938) **Motor Vehicles and Traffic; create new class of motor vehicles to be known as autonomous vehicles; definitions; requirements**

Sen. Josh McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), the author of SB 113, presented the bill to the Committee. No one spoke for or against the bill.

Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 43 0104S)**. Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

**SB 113 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 0104S)**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 24, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, was absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**SB 89** (Sen. Albers, 56<sup>th</sup>, LC 33 5871) "**Digital Classroom Act**"; **require instructional materials and content to be in digital or electronic format after a certain date**

Sen. Albers (56<sup>th</sup>) presented a substitute to **SB 89, LC 33 6041S**.

### SUMMARY to change of original bill

- To make sure the State Board of Education can prescribe and get any type of material, not just a physical textbook, to make recommendations.
- Line 105, Local boards of education are strongly encouraged to
  - Purchase all instructional materials and content in digital or electronic format; and
  - Provide a laptop, tablet, or other wireless electronic device to each of its students in grades three and higher or allow students to provide their own for use as the principal source of reading or assessing instructional materials and content, so that by July 1, 2020, all instructional materials and content are provided in digital or electronic format.
- Line 112, The State Board of Education shall annually determine a reasonable level of funding to assist local boards of education in attaining complete digital access pursuant to this Code section. Such level of funding shall annually be presented to the General Assembly for its consideration in including appropriations for such purposes.
- Line 117, This article shall not apply to students in home study programs or virtual courses.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) commented that Chairman Lindsey Tippins (37<sup>th</sup>), of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth, agreed to the educational portion of the bill.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 33 6041S)**. Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**SB 89 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 33 6041S)**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 3, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**SR 360** (Sen. Beach, 21<sup>st</sup>, LC 43 0112) **Senate Data Security and Privacy Study Committee; create**

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) asked Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) to run the meeting as he presented SR 360 to the Committee.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (4-0).

### **SR 360 DO PASS**

A presentation was made by the Georgia Conservancy on the Mission Zero Corridor in West Georgia.

A presentation was made by ARC on the Economic Competitiveness Strategic Implementation Plan.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building on Thursday, March 5, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) was absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**SR 412** (Sen. Jones II, 22<sup>nd</sup>, LC 25 6490) Senate Cyber Challenge Study Committee;  
**create**

Sen. Harold Jones, II (22<sup>nd</sup>) presented the resolution to the Committee.

Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

**SR 412 DO PASS**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary



## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 1:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 19, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) was absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

### **HB 225 (Rep. Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup>) Local government; all for-hire drivers obtain a for-hire license endorsement before driving for hire; provide**

Rep. Alan Powell (32<sup>nd</sup>), the author of the bill, presented **HB 225/CSFA:**

Key provisions of the bill include:

- Requiring drivers for ride-sharing companies to be subject to background checks, either by the Department of Driver Services OR a private company;
- Requiring ride-sharing companies to pay state sales tax in the same manner as taxi and limousine companies or purchase annually a master license based on the number of vehicles owned;
- Requiring ride-sharing companies to carry the same level of liability insurance as is required of taxi and limousine companies;
- Requiring the owner of each for-hire vehicle to either purchase a master license or continue to pay sales and use taxes on all fares collected; and
- Placing a freeze on the issuance of taxicab medallions by municipalities and counties.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called upon the following speakers:

- Joseph Okpaku, from Lyft, and Nick Saprisky, from Uber, spoke in favor of the bill.
- Lee A. Schneider of Wimberly, Lawson, Steckel, Schneider & Stine, P.C., representing the Taxi Cab Association and the Limousine Carrier Association, had one concern about the bill. His clients prefer if all drivers were fingerprinted by the state. His clients are in support of all other parts of the bill.

No one spoke in opposition to the bill.

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed (2-1). The yea votes were Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) and the no vote was Sen. Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>).

**HB 225 DO PASS**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, March 24, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, were absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m (due to session adjourning later than usual).

**HB 225 (Rep. Powell, 32<sup>nd</sup>) Local government; all for-hire drivers obtain a for-hire license endorsement before driving for hire; provide**

Rep. Alan Powell (32<sup>nd</sup>), the author of HB225, presented a Senate substitute to **HB 225**.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) said these changes are due to the need to continue the operations of corporate-sponsored vanpools and ridesharing, but to not allow any entities to take advantage of the donation system when providing vanpools or ridesharing.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) made a motion to **adopt an amendment** to the Committee substitute. Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (2-0)

Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute** (LC 43 0160S). Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (2-0)

**HB 225 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 0160S)**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

## SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The Senate Committee on Science & Technology met in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building on Thursday, March 26, 2015.

### MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21<sup>st</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Elena Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Bruce Thompson (14<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, was absent.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. (due to session adjourning later than usual).

**SR 590 (Sen. Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup>, LC 108 0789) Clinical Research; encouraging the representation of diverse populations of different racial and ethnic backgrounds**

Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) presented **SR 590, LC 108 0789** on behalf of Sen. Lester Jackson (2<sup>nd</sup>), who was presenting a bill at another Committee meeting.

The presentation included the following:

- African Americans represent 12% of the United States population, but only 5% of clinical trial participants.
- Hispanics represent 16% of the United States population, but only 1% of clinical trial participants.
- The resolution recommends additional community resources to increase awareness of the importance of participating in clinical trials.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) recognized **Dave Pratt** of Novaris, who spoke in favor of the resolution.

No one spoke against the resolution.

Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) recognized the late arrival of Sen. Jackson (2<sup>nd</sup>) and allowed him to add comments for his resolution.

Sen. Kennedy (18<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Parent (42<sup>nd</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. (3-0)

**SR 590 DO PASS**

With no further business, Sen. Beach (21<sup>st</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 2:43p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Sherry Williams, Recording Secretary

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**COMMITTEES:**  
Science and Technology, Chairman  
Transportation, Secretary  
Higher Education  
Regulated Industries and Utilities

**The State Senate**  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

May 11, 2015

Secretary of Senate Office  
Attention: Amy Krieg  
State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Amy,

The Senate Science & Technology Committee has no bills or resolutions to return for the 2015 Session.

Sincerely,

  
Sherry B. Williams  
Committee Recorder