

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR MEMBERS

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## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Monday, January 26, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and said a brief prayer.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) welcomed the members to the Committee and asked for a motion to adopt the Rules for 2015-2016. Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to adopt the Rules. Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the Rules were adopted. A copy of the Rules is attached.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

**SB 1** (Sen. Bethel, 54<sup>th</sup>, LC 25 6452) **Insurance; provide for certain insurance coverage for autism spectrum disorders**

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 1:10 p.m.

The following spoke in favor of the bill:

Callie Michael, with Southern Strategy, who introduced Judith Ursitti, a parent of a child with autism  
Anna Bullard, parent of a child with autism  
Jamila Pope, Children's Healthcare  
Dr. Nat Call, Children's Healthcare

The following spoke against the bill:

Kyle Jackson with the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)  
Graham Thompson & Allen Hayes with Georgia Association of Health Plans  
David Raynor with the Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Sen. Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **SB 1 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1876S)**. Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 1 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1876S)**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE & LABOR**  
**2015 – 2016 RULES**

1. These Committee Rules of Operation shall be consistent with the Rules of the Senate and in the event of any conflict, the Rules of the Senate shall be observed.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be five (5) members.
3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
4. 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. Prior to Subcommittee action, the Chairman may recall any referred matter at his discretion.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-Chairman, Secretary or a Committee member designated by the Chairman shall preside, respectively.
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 in accordance with the Rules of the Senate.
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.
8. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom the author designates to do so.
9. The Chairman may delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
10. The Chairman shall manage the debate, deliberations, evidence, presentations and testimony during the course of meetings to best serve the interests of the Committee and the Senate on behalf of the citizens of Georgia.

## **Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor**

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday, February 11, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**SR 11** (Sen. Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup>, LC 36 2627) **Senate Study Committee on Employee Misclassification; create**

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, arrived at 1:09 p.m.

Those speaking in favor of the bill were from different unions around the state:

Eric Robertson, Teamsters  
Keith Thompson, North Georgia Building Trades  
Carol Cauley, Stand Up for Savannah  
John Jackson, Stand Up for Savannah  
Michael Alleyne  
Lewis Grant, Stand Up for Savannah  
Brian Hill, IATSE

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion that **SR 11 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1915S)**. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 11 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1915S)**

**SB 15** (Sen. James, 35<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1832) **Minimum Wage Law; provide for substantive and comprehensive reform; provisions**

Speaking against the bill were:

Kyle Jackson, of the National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB).  
David Raynor, of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce

**NOTE:** Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) left the meeting at 1:42 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill was:

Wesley Tharp, of the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) left the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

There being no quorum, Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 2:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday, February 18, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**NOTE:** Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) and Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:14 p.m.

**[SB 88](#) (Sen. Jones, 25<sup>th</sup>, LC 21 3625) Labor and Industrial Relations; provide for the payment of wages by credit to a payroll card; provisions**

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) presented a substitute (LC 36 2709S) to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:15 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 1:16 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill were:

Jay Morgan, American Transaction Processors Coalition  
Edens Davis, Georgia Retail Association  
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Agribusiness Council  
Steve Georgeson, First Date Cooperation  
Tim Terry, Georgia AFL-CIO

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 2709S)**. Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 88 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 2709S)**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## **Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor**

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Monday, February 23, 2015 in 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P.K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) stated the Committee would have a hearing only on SB 111 and it would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:11 p.m.

**[SB 111](#) (Sen. Stone, 23<sup>rd</sup>, LC 21 3660) Continuing Care Providers and Facilities; define certain terms; provide for a provider to offer continuing care at home**

Sen. Stone (23<sup>rd</sup>) explained his bill and then introduced Tom Bauer from Leading Age to speak to the bill.

Thomas Rockenbach from Carlyle Place spoke in favor of the bill and also answered questions from the Committee.

**SB 111 HEARING ONLY**

**NOTE:** Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:25 p.m.

**[SB 108](#) (Sen. Martin, 9<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1899ER) Insurance; provide the requirements for maintaining a risk management framework**

Sen. Martin presented his bill and asked Jay Florence from the Insurance Commissioner's office to speak.

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 108 DO PASS**

Sen. Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Tuesday, February 24, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>)  
Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**SB 111 (Sen. Stone, 23<sup>rd</sup>, LC 21 3660) Continuing Care Providers and Facilities; define certain terms; provide for a provider to offer continuing care at home**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) said that since the Committee heard the bill yesterday that there would be no testimony.

Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) made a motion that **Do Pass by Substitute**. Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to amend section 1, line 35 that after “services” to add “by a licensed private home care provider.” Sen. Stone (23<sup>rd</sup>) agreed with the amendment. Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion to amend the substitute and the amendment passed unanimously.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) asked for a motion to create a new substitute to include Sen. Martin’s amendment. Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1946S)**. Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 4 -1 with Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), and Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) voting yea and Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) voting nay.

**SB 111 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1946S)**

Chairman Bethel adjourned the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## **Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor**

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday, March 4, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) said this was a hearing only and he wanted to limit the speakers since there were so many. He also said that he would have to leave to attend an Appropriations meeting but he would turn it over to Senator Jones.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) assumed the Chair.

### **SB 158 (Sen. Burke, 11<sup>th</sup>) "Consumer and Provider Protection Act"; provide certain consumer and provider protections regarding health insurance**

Sen. Burke (11<sup>th</sup>), the author of SB 158, presented his legislation and introduced Marcus Davis and John Crew from the American Medical Association (AMA) to speak to the bill.

Speaking in opposition to the bill were:

Allan Hayes, American Health Insurance Plans  
Graham Thompson, Georgia Association Health Plans

Speaking in support of the bill were:

Fatimot Ladipo, Georgia Dental Association  
Aubrey Villines Georgia Chiropractor Association & Georgia Association of Marriage and Family Therapy

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) appointed Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) and himself to a Subcommittee for SB158.

### **SB 158 HEARING ONLY**

### **SB 143 (Sen. Hufstetler, 52<sup>nd</sup>) Insurance; require insurer providing services under state health benefit plan to include certain trauma centers in provider network**

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:40 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

John Hauptert, Grady Health System  
Scott Maxwell, Memorial Hospital in Savannah

**SB 143 HEARING ONLY**

**NOTE:** Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) left the meeting to attend another committee meeting.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) presided for the rest of the meeting.

**SB 123 (Sen. Lucas, 26<sup>th</sup>) Insurers, Limits of Risks, Reinsurance; provide for certain requirements by any insurer; liability insurance policy covering automobile liability**

Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26<sup>th</sup>), the author of SB123, explained his bill, told of an incident that happened to him, and said that is why he authored this legislation.

After a few comments by the Committee, Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) stated this was a hearing only and there would be no action at this time.

**SB 123 HEARING ONLY**

Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Friday, March 6, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**SB 137 (Sen. Harbin, 16<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1928) Property Insurance; expand the ownership restriction; value of the property covered against loss by fire**

Speaking in support for the bill was Gould Hagler with Independent Insurance Agents of Georgia.

Speaking against the bill was Bobby Potter, State Farm Insurance

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **SB 137 Do Pass by Substitute**. There was no second.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 12:20 p.m.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to amend SB 137 on line 12 of Section 1 after “corporation” to add “owned by three or less natural persons.” Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1977S)**. Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 137 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1977S)**

**SB 143 (Sen. Hufstetler, 52<sup>nd</sup>, LC 33 5969) Insurance; require insurer providing services under state health benefit plan to include certain trauma centers in provider network**

Speaking against the bill were Lisa Marie Shekell and LaKeisha Johnson, both of the Department of Community Health.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to amend Section 1, line 31 after “area” and add “unless the insurer has obtained the consent of the Department of Community Health to exclude any Level 1 trauma center.”

**NOTE:** Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 12:40 p.m.

After some discussion, Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to adopt Sen. Bethel’s amendment. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion and the amendment passed.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **SB 143 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1976S)**. Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5 -0. The votes were Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>). Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) abstained.

**SB 143 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1976S)**

**SB 196 (Sen. Beach, 21<sup>st</sup>, LC 43 0120) Insurance; provide insurance requirements for transportation network companies and drivers; definitions; minimum liability limits**

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) left at 12:55 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) left at 12:56 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill were:

Brad Nail, Uber

Joseph Okpaku, Lyft

Stacy Freeman, Property Casualty Insurers of America

Bobby Potter, American Insurance Association

Speaking against the bill was Emily Bagwell, of the Georgia PCIC Insurance Agency / United Services Automobile Association (USAA).

Elizabeth Chandler with the Georgia Bankers Association and Gould Hagler with Independent Insurance Agents said the bill needed changes.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) returned at 1:08 p.m.

Brandy Bickle, with Georgia Credit Unions, expressed concerns about the legislation.

Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) moved to amend the bill by striking line 21 of Section 1 and deleting lines 101 – 105 in Section 1. Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) made a motion that **SB 196 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1975S)**. Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote. Sen. Harbin

(16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) voted yea and Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) voted no.

**SB 196 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1975S)**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**[HB 366](#) (Rep. Strickland, 111<sup>th</sup>, LC 36 2732S) Employment of minors; issuance of employment certificates; change certain provisions**

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 1:11 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:25 p.m.

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 366 DO PASS**

**[HB 348](#) (Rep. Dickey, 140<sup>th</sup>, LC 34 4493ER-EC) Labor; create State Workforce Development Board; provisions**

**NOTE:** Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:29 p.m.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 348 DO PASS**

**[HB 185](#) (Rep. Shaw, 185<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1890ER) Insurance; Standard Valuation Law; extensively revise**

Speaking in favor of the bill were:

John Humphries, Managing Partner for AGI  
Bobby Potter, State Farm Insurance

Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 185 DO PASS**

**NOTE:** Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) arrived 1:35 p.m.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) said there would be no action taken on HB 162 today.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 1:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## **Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor**

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Thursday, March 19, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

### **HB 412 (Rep. Hamilton, 24<sup>th</sup>, LC 36 2726S) Workers' compensation; change certain provisions**

Rep. Mark Hamilton (24<sup>th</sup>), the author of HB 412, explained his bill and said there was no opposition in the House on this legislation.

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **HB 412 DO PASS**

### **HB 117 (Rep. Hamilton, 24<sup>th</sup>, LC 36 2662ER) Employment security; modify definition of the term most recent employer; change certain provisions**

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) left at 8:30 a.m.

D. A. King, Dustin Inman Society spoke in opposition to the bill.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 8:35 a.m.

Roy Bowen with the Georgia Association of Manufacturers spoke in support of the bill.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) told the Committee that there was a substitute by Sen. Henson (41<sup>st</sup>) that he wanted to include in HB 117. Ben Myers, Political Director with IBEW, spoke about the substitute.

**NOTE:** Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) left at 8:40 a.m. and returned at 8:44 a.m.

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **HB 117 Do Pass**. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion to remove lines 291 – 341 which would remove Section 7 in its entirety. Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) asked for a motion to create a new substitute to include Sen. McKoon's amendment.. Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 1996ERS)**. Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

**HB 117 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 1996ERS)**

**HB 303** (Rep. Hightower, 68<sup>th</sup>, LC 29 6516S) **Uninsured motorist coverage; recovery when an insurer refuses to pay for a loss within 60 days after a demand has been made by the insured and a finding has been made that such refusal was made in bad faith; change provisions**

Rep. Dustin Hightower (68<sup>th</sup>), the author of HB 303, explained his bill to the Committee.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) told the Committee that there would be no action taken on this legislation today.

**HB 303 HEARING ONLY**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Monday, March 23, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**HB 84 (Rep. Cheokas, 138<sup>th</sup>) Insurance; denial of an aircraft claim unless the insured's action or failure to act had a direct causal connection to loss upon which claim is based; prohibit**

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 84 DO PASS**

**HB 470 (Rep. Knight, 130<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1982ERS) The Pharmacy Audit Bill of Rights; change certain provisions**

**NOTE:** Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:09 p.m.

Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 33 6166ERS)**. Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 470 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 33 6166ERS)**

Chairman Bethel told the Committee that he would have to leave soon to present his bill in a House Committee and that Vice-Chairman Shafer would be presiding.

**HB 439 (Rep. Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1964ERS) Georgia New Markets Jobs Act; enact**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) explained that the Committee would hear HB 439 but would not vote on it because no one had seen the substitute until the meeting.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 1:20 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill was Knox Massey, Executive Director of Invest Georgia.

Speaking against the bill was Wesley Tharpe, of the Georgia Budget and Policy Institute.  
**HB 439 HEARING ONLY**

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 1:30 p.m.

**HB 552** (Rep. Williamson, 115<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1971ERS) Insurance; provide changes to the captive insurance company provisions; add definitions

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) said that the Committee would not vote on this bill today and that he would put it on the agenda for Wednesday, March 25.

Jay Florence, from the Insurance Commissioner's office, spoke in favor of the bill and answered questions from the Committee.

**HB 552 HEARING ONLY**

**HB 190** (Rep. Golick, 40<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1934S) Insurance; provide requirements for transportation network companies and their drivers; provisions

**NOTE:** Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) left at 1:45 p.m. and Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) assumed a presiding role over the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) left at 1:45 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) left and returned at 1:55 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) left at 2:02 p.m. and returned at 2:04 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey (43<sup>rd</sup>) left at 2:07 p.m. and returned at 2:10 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>) left at 2:07 p.m. and returned at 2:15 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) left at 2:10 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill were:

Bobby Potter, American Insurance Association

Brandy Bickle, Georgia Credit Unions

Les Schneider, Georgia Limousine Association

Stacy Freeman, Property Casualty Insurers Association

Ragan Marsh, Troutman Sanders

Speaking against the bill was Lewis Massey, representing UBER

Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) said that there would be no action taken on the legislation.

**HB 190 HEARING ONLY**

Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday, March 25, 2015 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>), Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, and Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) called the meeting to order at 2:46 p.m. and asked the Committee to have a moment of silence to prepare their hearts for the meeting.

**[HB 162](#) (Rep. Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup>) Insurance; provide for insurance compliance self-evaluative privilege; provisions**

**NOTE:** Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) arrived at 2:49 p.m.

Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2007S)**. Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 162 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2007S)**

**[HB 439](#) (Rep. Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1964ERS) Georgia New Markets Jobs Act; enact**

Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2010ERS)**. Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 439 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2010ERS)**

**[HB 552](#) (Rep. Williamson, 115<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1971ERS) Insurance; provide changes to the captive insurance company provisions; add definitions**

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) to amend the substitute by striking lines 219-452. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) asked for a motion for the new substitute to include his amendment. Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2018ERS)**. Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

**HB 552 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2018ERS)**

**HB 190 (Rep. Golick, 40<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1934S) Insurance; provide requirements for transportation network companies and their drivers; provisions**

Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) made a motion **HB 190 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2013S)**. Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5 – 1. The yea votes were Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) and Sen. Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>). The nay vote was Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>).

**HB 190 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2013S)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>) left at 2:55 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Unterman arrived at 2:57 p.m.

**NOTE:** Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) arrived at 3:30 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) and Vice-Chairman Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>) left at 3:45 p.m.

**HB 409 (Rep. Taylor, 173<sup>rd</sup>) Insurance; reimbursement for treatment of burns for skin substitutes utilizing cadaver derived skin tissue or nonhuman xenographic derived skin tissue; provide  
**HB 409 HEARING ONLY****

**HB 429 (Rep. Stephens, 164<sup>th</sup>) Insurance; no health benefit plan shall restrict coverage for prescribed treatment based upon insured's diagnosis with a terminal condition; provide  
**HB 429 HEARING ONLY****

**HB 537 (Rep. Rogers, 29<sup>th</sup>) Medical assistance; provide single administrator for dental services for Medicaid recipients and PeachCare for Kids participants; provisions**

Blake Fulenwider, with CMO Coalition, spoke against the legislation.

Fatimo Ladipoj, Georgia Dental Association, spoke in favor of the legislation.

**HB 537 HEARING ONLY**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Friday, March 27 2015 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>), Chairman  
Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary  
Sen. Burt Jones (25<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Renee Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>)

**NOTE:** Sen. Marty Harbin (16<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ed Harbison (15<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Ronald Ramsey, Sr. (43<sup>rd</sup>) and Sen. David Shafer (48<sup>th</sup>), Vice-Chairman, were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) began the meeting with a word of prayer and then called the meeting to order at 8:15 a.m.

**[HB 429](#) (Rep. Stephens, 164<sup>th</sup>) Insurance; no health benefit plan shall restrict coverage for prescribed treatment based upon insured's diagnosis with a terminal condition**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) presented HB 429 and explained the bill's changes.

Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2023S)**. Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) submitted a ceremonial vote for support of the bill.

**HB 429 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2023S)**

**[HB 409](#) (Rep. Taylor, 173<sup>rd</sup>, LC 37 1978S) Insurance; reimbursement for treatment of burns for skin substitutes utilizing cadaver derived skin tissue or nonhuman xenographic derived skin tissue; provide**

Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 3 – 1 with Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>), Sen. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), and Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) voting yea and Sen. McKoon (29<sup>th</sup>) voting no.

**HB 409 DO PASS**

**[HB 185](#) (Rep. Shaw, 176<sup>th</sup>, LC 37 1890ER) Insurance; Standard Valuation Law; extensively revise**

Sen. Jones (25<sup>th</sup>) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2022ERS)**. Sen. Unterman (45<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 185 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2022ERS)**

Chairman Bethel (54<sup>th</sup>) adjourned the meeting at 8:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9<sup>th</sup>), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

May 1, 2015

The Honorable David Cook  
Secretary of the Senate  
353 State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear Mr. Cook:

Please find listed below the bills remaining in the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee for the 2015 Legislative Session:

[HB 303](#)

[HB 537](#)

[SB 15](#)

[SB 19](#)

[SB 29](#)

[SB 32](#)

[SB 42](#)

[SB 43](#)

[SB 123](#)

[SB 136](#)

[SB 158](#)

[SB 200](#)

[SB 204](#)

[SB 229](#)

[SB 245](#)

[SB 249](#)

Sincerely,

Betty Conner  
Recording Secretary  
Senate Insurance and Labor Committee