

## 2105 Committee on Interstate Cooperation Roster

**Senator Donzella James 35<sup>th</sup>, Chairman**

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Minutes

**Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation**

Thursday, January 29, 2015

123 State Capitol

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> called the meeting to order at 1:15 P.M. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup>, Chairman

Senator Ed Harbison, 15<sup>th</sup>

Senator Vincent Fort, 39<sup>th</sup>

This was the first meeting of the Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee of the 2015 Legislative Session. Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> introduced herself and invited everyone in attendance to do the same. She also welcomed committee members, staff, and guests.

The meeting began with discussion of the committee rules. A handout of the rules were given to each member. Senator James, 35<sup>th</sup> led the discussion about rules and asked if anyone had any questions or comments.

A motion was made by Senator Harbison, 15<sup>th</sup> to adopt the rules and Senator Fort, 39<sup>th</sup> seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous. The rules for 2015 Session were adopted.

After adoption of the rules, there was no further business to discuss. Chairman James adjourned the meeting at 1:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup>  
Chairman

/s/ Jacqueline Leathers  
Recording Secretary

SENATE COMMITTEE ON INTERSTATE COOPERATION  
2015 LEGISLATIVE SESSION RULES

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

Minutes

**Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation**

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

123 State Capitol

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> called the meeting to order at 1:25 P.M. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup> Chairman  
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, 12<sup>th</sup>, Vice Chairman  
Senator Vincent Fort, 39<sup>th</sup>

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> greeted everyone and introduced Senator Tommie Williams, 19<sup>th</sup> Chairman of the Senate Transportation Committee.

Senator Tommie Williams, 19<sup>th</sup> discussed the Transportation Funding Act. A copy of the Transportation Funding Act Analysis and a County by County Splost tax were given to committee members.

After Senator Williams', 19<sup>th</sup> discussion, Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> asked if anyone had questions and there were none.

Senator Powell Sims, 12<sup>th</sup> commented about transportation concerns in her district.

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> thanked Senator Williams, 19<sup>th</sup> for his presentation.

Chairman James adjourned the meeting at 1:50 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup>,  
Chairman

/s/ Jacqueline Leathers  
Recording Secretary

Minutes

**Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation**

Monday, March 2, 2015

318 CLOB

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> called the meeting to order at 3:23 P.M. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup> Chairman  
Senator Emanuel Jones 10<sup>th</sup>, Secretary  
Senator Ed Harbison, 15<sup>th</sup>

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> greeted everyone and introduced Senator Lester Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**SB 103, Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Sales of Alcoholic Beverages on Sunday**

Senator Lester Jackson, 2<sup>nd</sup> explained Senate Bill 103 will allow the sale of alcohol on St. Patrick's Holiday Period. The bill will authorize local governments by resolution or ordinance to allow the sale of alcohol for consumption on the premises for a period of up to four days prior to and including March 17<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> asked if anyone had questions and there were none.

Senator Harbison, 15<sup>th</sup> made a motion **Do Pass**, seconded by Senator Emanuel Jones, 10<sup>th</sup>. The vote was unanimous.

**SB 103 Do Pass**

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> adjourned the meeting at 3:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Jacqueline Leathers  
Recording Secretary

Minutes

**Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation**

Monday, March 9, 2015

125 CAP

Chairman James called the meeting to order at 4:15 P.M. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup> Chairman  
Senator Freddie Powell Sims, 12<sup>th</sup>, Vice Chairman  
Senator Emanuel Jones 10<sup>th</sup>, Secretary

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> greeted everyone and introduced Representative Gerald Greene, 151<sup>st</sup>.

**HR 395, Greene, 151<sup>st</sup>, Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee**

Representative Greene, 151<sup>st</sup> presented a substitute to the committee (LC 25 6494S).

The Resolution created a joint study committee to meet with legislative counterparts from the State of Alabama to discuss issues common to both States and seek mutual solutions of such issues. The Committee would be comprised of five Senators and five Representatives, and would last until December 1, 2016.

Representative Greene, 151<sup>st</sup> discussed that the idea originated when Speaker David Ralston was approached at the Southern Legislative Conference by legislators from Alabama proposing a joint effort to look at problems arising along the Georgia-Alabama border.

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> asked how much money would be spent on the study committee and how were meetings to held? Representative Greene answered that expenses would be per diem, and that he expects this committee to travel to Alabama no less than twice.

Senator Jones, 10<sup>th</sup> asked if Alabama's committee would also have ten members. Representative Greene answered affirmatively.

The Substitute changes the power to appoint Senate members originally given to the President Pro Tempore to the President of the Senate. Further, the Substitute dictates that The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate will each appoint 5 members from their respective chambers out of the pool of districts that abut The Alabama boundary (originally, the committee was comprised of all Representatives and Senators whose districts abutted Alabama).

Senator Jones, 10<sup>th</sup> made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**, seconded by Senator Powell Sims, 12<sup>th</sup>. The vote was unanimous.

**HR 395 Do Pass by Substitute**

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> adjourned the meeting at 4:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Jacqueline Leathers  
Recording Secretary

Minutes

**Senate Committee on Interstate Cooperation**

Monday, March 19, 2015

123 State Capitol

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> called the meeting to order at 1:20 P.M. The following members were in attendance:

Senator Donzella James, 35<sup>th</sup> Chairman  
Senator Emanuel Jones, 10<sup>th</sup>, Secretary  
Senator Vincent Fort, 39<sup>th</sup>

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> greeted everyone and introduced Representative Matt Dollar, 45<sup>th</sup>.

**HB 540, Dollar, 45<sup>th</sup>, Senate Interstate Cooperation Committee and House Committee on Interstate Cooperation; clarify number of members**

Representative Dollar, 45<sup>th</sup> discussed briefly HB 540. He stated that it is a housekeeping measure.

The bill allows the Interstate Cooperation Committees of the House and the Senate to appoint more than 5 members. Both chambers Interstate Cooperation committees are actually established in Title 28-delineating that each committee is to consist of five members. Currently, the House has 12 members and the Senate has 5 members appointed to their committees.

Senator Emanuel Jones, 10<sup>th</sup> made a motion **Do Pass**, seconded by Senator Fort, 39<sup>th</sup>. The vote was unanimous.

**HB 540 Do Pass**

Chairman James, 35<sup>th</sup> adjourned the meeting at 1:35 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Jacqueline Leathers  
Recording Secretary

**DONZELLA JAMES**  
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**The State Senate**  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**COMMITTEES:**  
Interstate Cooperation, Chairman  
Economic Development and Tourism  
Education and Youth  
Special Judiciary

April 28, 2015

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

This letter is to inform you that the Interstate Cooperation Committee had no bills to return.  
If you need further information, please contact my office.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donzella J. James".

Donzella J. James  
Chairperson  
Interstate Cooperation Committee  
Senator, District 35