

**MEMBERS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT  
2016 Legislative Session**

Sen. Bill Heath, Chairman  
District 31  
2225 Cashtown Road  
Bremen, GA 30110

Sen. Marty Harbin, Vice-Chairman  
District 16  
130 Ellison Road  
Tyrone, GA 30290

Sen. Elena Parent, Secretary  
District 42  
774 Springdale Rd NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306

Sen. Valencia Seay  
District 34  
P.O. Box 960008  
Riverdale, GA 30274

Sen. David Shafer, Ex-Officio  
District 48  
P.O. Box 880  
Duluth, GA 30096

**RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**  
**2016 Legislative Session**

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be three (3) members.
2. The Chairman shall determine which cases or investigations shall be heard and the order in which said hearings are to commence.
3. The Committee will not hear a bill unless the Chairman receives a written request for a hearing from the author of the bill.
4. The Chairman shall have the authority to refer cases or investigations to Subcommittee for study. Such Subcommittees, in turn, shall have the authority to make recommendations on such cases to the full Committee.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess, put forward questions and adjourn upon order of the Chairman, subject to the Rules of the Senate.
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.
7. If a Committee member moves on a House bill without a Senate sponsor, that Committee member becomes the sponsor of the bill.
8. After adoption, these Rules may be amended upon motion duly made, seconded, and subsequently approved by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Committee.
9. The Secretary of the Committee shall distribute a copy of these Rules to all members of the Senate Government Oversight Committee.
10. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**

The Senate Committee on Government Oversight met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, January 26, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Heath (31st) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent (42nd), Secretary, arrived at 1:05 p.m.

**SR 388 (Sen. Bill Heath, 31st) Constitution; prevent discrimination in the public funding of social services; allow religious/faith-based organization to receive public aid -CA**

Chairman Heath (31st) presented the bill to the Committee.

Mark Maskowitz, of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL) spoke against the bill, questioning Chairman Heath (31st) on the relation SR 388 has to the Blaine Amendment.

Sen. Parent (42nd) posited her intention to submit an amendment, with intent to add language to the bill that opens up public funds to state audit. Sen. Seay (34th) stated her intention to submit an amendment. Sen. Heath (31st) stated that once drafted, he will consider amendments at a future meeting.

### **SR 388 Tabled**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**

The Senate Committee on Government Oversight met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 9, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)  
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Shafer (48th) was appointed to the Senate Committee on Government Oversight by the Committee on Assignments January 28, 2016. A copy of the letter is attached.

Chairman Heath (31st) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

### **SR 388 (Sen. Bill Heath, 31st) Constitution; prevent discrimination in the public funding of social services; allow religious/faith-based organization to receive public aid –CA**

Sen. Parent (42nd) spoke to Amendment 1 (AM 34 3725).

Sen. Seay (34th) made a motion to adopt Amendment 1 (AM 34 3725). Sen. Parent (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion failed 3-2. The yea votes were Sen. Seay (34th) and Sen. Parent (42nd). The nay votes were Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen. Shafer (48th), with Chairman Heath (31st) breaking the tie.

Sen. Parent (42nd) spoke to Amendment 2 (AM 34 7024).

Jim Puckett of the Georgia School Board Association Maragaret Circcarelli of the Profession Association of Georgia Educators, and John Zammer of the Georgia School Superintendent Association spoke in favor of SR 388 contingent upon incorporation of Amendment 2.

Sen. Seay (34th) made a motion to adopt Amendment 2(A). Sen. Parent (42nd) seconded the motion. Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen. Shafer (48th) opposed; motion failed.

Sen. Parent (42nd) made a motion to adopt Amendment 2 (AM 34 7024). Sen. Seay (34th) seconded the motion. The yea votes were Sen. Seay (34th) and Sen. Parent (42nd). The nay votes were Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen. Shafer (48th), with Sen. Heath (31st) breaking the tie.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion SR 388 **DO PASS**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Harbin (16th). The motion passed 3-2. The yea votes were Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen.

Shafer (48th), with Sen. Heath (31st) breaking the tie. The nay votes were Sen. Parent (42nd) and Sen. Seay (34th).

**SR 388 DO PASS**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

240 State Capitol

Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Casey Cagle

Lieutenant Governor

January 28, 2016

Mr. David Cook

Secretary of the Senate

353 State Capitol

Atlanta, GA 30334

Dear David:

In accordance with Senate Rules, the Senate Committee on Assignments hereby appoints Senator David Shafer to serve as a permanent Ex-Officio Member for the Senate Government Oversight Committee. This appointment is effective immediately, and shall be concurrent with Senate Term.

Sincerely,

/s/ Casey Cagle

Lt. Governor Casey Cagle

President of the Senate

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**

The Senate Committee on Government Oversight met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 16, 2016, at 2:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Bill Heath (31st), Chairman  
Senator Marty Harbin (16th), Vice-Chairman  
Senator Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary  
Senator Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, was absent.

Chairman Heath (31st) called the meeting to order at 2:24 p.m.

### **SB 317 (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st) American Indian Tribes; add a new tribe and correct address information**

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented SB 317 to the Committee.

Johnny Chattin, Chief of the Tsigamogi Tribe, answered questions pertaining to the necessity of the bill.

Ms. Heidi Helman spoke in support of the bill.

After hearing testimony, Chairman Heath (31st) tabled the bill until further notice.

### **SB 317 Tabled**

**NOTE:** Sen. Shafer (48th) arrived at 2:30 p.m.

### **SB 345 (Sen. Hunter Hill, 6th) Corporations, Partnership, and Associations; provide for the policy of state determining property rights of religious organizations**

Sen. Hill (6th) presented SB 345 to the Committee.

Sen. Heath (31st) tabled the bill until the next meeting of this Committee.

### **SB 345 Tabled**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**

The Senate Committee on Government Oversight met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 23, 2016, at 1:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary  
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Hunter Hill (6th), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Chairman, and Sen. Valencia Seay (34th) were absent.

Vice-Chairman Harbin (16th) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Seay (34th) arrived at 1:09 p.m.

### **SB 345 (Sen. Hunter Hill, 6th) Corporations, Partnership, and Associations; provide for the policy of state determining property rights of religious organizations**

Sen. Hill (6th) introduced a substitute to SB 345, LC 28 7973S. He spoke to changes that were made to lines 25-29 of the original bill.

Rev. Gregory Karl Davis testified in support of the bill.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Parent (42nd) seconded motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **SB 345 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 28 7973S**

### **SB 410 (Sen. Ellis Black, 8th) State Symbols; designate the English bulldog as the official Georgia state dog**

Sen. Black (8th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Citizens Jennifer Hayes, Kay Clapper, Lisa Greemen, and Peggy McCartney spoke in opposition to the bill, citing the importance of an “adoptable dog” as the state symbol.

Sen Shafer (48th) made a motion **DO PASS**. Sen. Hill (6th) seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-2. The yea votes were Sen. Shafer (48th) and Sen. Hill (6th), with Sen. Harbin (16th) breaking the tie. The nay votes were Sen. Parent (42nd) and Sen. Seay (34th).

### **SB 410 DO PASS**

### **SB 327 (Sen. Judson Hill, 32nd) State Purchasing; prohibit the state from entering into certain contracts unless such contracts contain a certification; does not presently conduct a boycott of Israel**



Sen. Hill (32nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion **DO PASS**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Hill (6th). The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 327 DO PASS**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary



**OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

240 STATE CAPITOL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

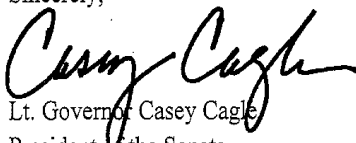
CASEY CAGLE  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

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

Dear David,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, the Senate Committee on Assignments hereby appoints Senator Hunter Hill to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Government Oversight Committee meeting on February 23, 2016. This appointment shall expire upon adjournment of the committee meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Lt. Governor Casey Cagle  
President of the Senate

CC/tes

Copy to:

Legislative Fiscal Officer  
Committee Chair  
Appointee

## **MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OVERSIGHT**

The Senate Committee on Government Oversight met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, March 14th, 2016, at 4:00 p.m.

### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Secretary, and Sen. Valencia Seay (34th) were absent.

Chairman Heath (31st) called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m.

### **[HB 737](#) (Rep. Johnnie Caldwell, Jr., 131st) Code Revision Commission; revise, modernize and correct errors of said Code**

Rep. Caldwell (131st) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion **DO PASS**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Harbin (16th). The motion passed unanimously.

### **HB 737 DO PASS**

### **[HB 795](#) (Rep. Bubber Epps, 144th) Georgia Driver's Education Commission; transfer from Department of Driver Services to the Governor's Office of Highway Safety**

Rep. Epps (144th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Harbin (16th) made a motion **DO PASS**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Shafer (48th). The motion passed unanimously.

### **HB 795 DO PASS**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Chairman

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

**BILL HEATH**  
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**The State Senate**  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**COMMITTEES:**

Rules  
Appropriations  
Finance  
Transportation, *Ex-Officio*  
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, *Ex-Officio*

**CHAIRMAN, GOVERNMENT  
OVERSIGHT**

April 1, 2016

**APR 1 PM 1:15**

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

On behalf of Chairman Heath, I am returning the following general bills assigned to the Senate Government Oversight Committee for the 2016 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly.

No action was taken on the following legislation:

**SR 65**

**SR 123**

**SB 40**

**SB 54**

**SB 61**

**SB 317**

**HB 561**

**HB 565**

**HB 973**

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe  
Recording Secretary  
Senate Government Oversight Committee