

**Veterans, Military & Homeland Security Committee Member Roster**

**2016**

Senator Hunter Hill, Chairman, 6th District  
2451 Cumberland Parkway, Ste. 3439  
Atlanta, GA 30339

Senator Ed Harbison, Vice Chairman, 15th District  
P.O. Box 1292  
Columbus, GA 31902

Senator Mike Dugan, Secretary, 30th District  
106 Champion Drive  
Carrollton, GA 30116

Senator Larry Walker, 20th District  
1110 Washington Street  
Perry, GA 31069

Senator Michael Rhett, 33rd District  
P.O. Box 777  
Marietta, GA 30061

## **Minutes of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security**

The **Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security** held a meeting on Monday, February 22, 2016 in Room 125 of the State Capitol at 3:00 p.m.

Present Senators:

Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Vice-Chairman

Sen. Mike Dugan (30th), Secretary

Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)

Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Hunter Hill (6th), Chairman, was absent.

Vice-Chairman Harbison (15th) convened the meeting at 3:00 p.m. for Chairman Hill (6th), who was unable to attend due to a conflict with another meeting.

Vice-Chairman Harbison (15th) asked the rest of the Committee to introduce themselves to the MOAA group before bringing Colonel Mayo A. “Biff” Hadden III (retired) to speak regarding MOAA and the 10,000 members in the 15 chapters they represent. Col. Hadden mentioned a pilot therapy facility in Milledgeville for Veterans with PTSD, to help them avoid homelessness, suicide, or mental illnesses.

Vice-Chairman Harbison (15th) called Major William B. Howerton II next to speak to building renovations in Milledgeville. Georgia would be the first state in the nation with this type of acute rehabilitative care facility where veterans can stay for 10-52 weeks. The renovations would cost up to \$12 million to complete.

Vice-Chairman Harbison (15th) then called the last speaker of MOAA, Colonel Gerald A. (Jerry) Johnson, USAF (retired), who spoke regarding brain-injured casualties as a result of IEDs. The Milledgeville facility will provide the right environment for families who are not ready to cope.

Sen. Dugan (30th) and Sen. Rhett (33rd) posed questions about the facility. With no further business, Vice-Chairman Harbison (15th) adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Mike Dugan (30th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Rules of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military and Homeland Security  
2015-2016**

1. These Committee Rules of Operation shall be consistent with Senate Rule 2-1.5 regarding the establishment of Rules of Operation.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be four (4) 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.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
6. Any members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report, in writing, with the Secretary of the Senate when the Committee report is read, pursuant to Senate Rule 2-1.6.
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 the presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he 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 Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing.
10. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern, pursuant to Senate Rule 2-1.5.

## **Minutes of the Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security**

The **Senate Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security** held a meeting on Monday, March 14, 2016 in Room 125 of the State Capitol at 3:00 p.m.

Present Senators:

Sen. Hunter Hill (6th), Chairman  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Mike Dugan, (30th), Secretary  
Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd)  
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)  
11th

Chairman Hill convened the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

### **[HB 12](#) (Rep. Terry Rogers, 10th, LC 29 7030S) Georgia Military Service Integrity and Preservation Act; enact**

Rep. Rogers (10th) discussed this piece of sponsored legislation pertaining to stolen valor and protection of the integrity of the military. Chairman Hill (6th) questioned lines 52-54 about someone receiving two charges if the person didn't earn a purple heart and bronze star, but who is wearing both. Rep. Rogers (10th) affirms this is correct.

With no further questions, Sen. Harbison (15th) made a motion **Do Pass**, and Sen. Dugan (30th) seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and Sen. Dugan (30th) will be the Senate sponsor.

#### **HB 12 DO PASS**

### **[HB 831](#) (Rep. Calvin Smyre, 135th, LC 43 0301S) "Protecting Guardsmen's Employment Act"; enact**

Sen. Harbison (15th) made a motion **Do Pass** and Sen. Rhett (33rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Harbison (15th) will be the Senate sponsor.

#### **HB 831 DO PASS**

### **[HB 654](#) (Rep. Sandra Scott, 76th, LC 41 0785S) Tattoo studios; post notification that certain tattoos could disqualify wearer from military service; require**

Under current law, a person receiving a tattoo must provide informed consent on a standard form. This legislation requires that form to also contain the following language:

- 'WARNING: YOU WILL LIKELY BE DISQUALIFIED FROM JOINING THE MILITARY IF YOU HAVE A TATTOO ON YOUR FACE, NECK, FOREARM, HAND, WRIST, OR LOWER LEG.'
- This legislation becomes effective on June 1, 2016.

Sen. Walker (20th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute** and Sen. Dugan (30th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Harbison (15th) will be the Senate sponsor.

**HB 654 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 41 0785S**

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Mike Dugan (30th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

HUNTER HILL  
District 6  
Majority Caucus Vice-Chairman

421-B State Capitol  
206 Washington Street SW  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334  
Phone: (404) 463-2518



## Georgia Senate

### COMMITTEES:

Veterans, Military and Homeland Security,  
Chairman  
Finance, Vice-Chairman  
Appropriations  
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Retirement, Ex-Officio  
Rules, Ex-Officio  
MARTOC

E-mail: [Hunter.Hill@senate.ga.gov](mailto:Hunter.Hill@senate.ga.gov)

April 6, 2016

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

APR 6 AM 9:09

Dear Mr. Cook,

The Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security had no bills or resolutions left in committee for the 2016 Legislative Session.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Taylor Hartshorn".

Taylor Hartshorn  
Legislative Assistant  
Majority Caucus Leadership Office  
Office of Senator John Wilkinson, 50<sup>th</sup> District  
Office of Senator Hunter Hill, 6<sup>th</sup> District  
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