

COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR MEMBERS

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Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
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MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
January 25, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Monday, January 25, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:13 p.m and asked for a moment of silence before the meeting began.

Chairman Bethel (54th) told the Committee that we now have 10 members and the quorum has changed from 5 to 6 and asked for a motion to adopt the Rules for 2016. Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion to adopt the Rules and Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and the Rules were adopted. A copy of the Rules is attached.

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) arrived at 2:15 p.m.

[SB 136](#) (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 37 1923) "Life Insurance Consumer Disclosure Act"; provide

Chairman Bethel (54th) told the Committee that Sen. Harbin (16th) requested that SB136 not be heard today due to some actions in the House.

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) arrived at 2:20 p.m.

[SB 137](#) (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 37 1928) Property Insurance; expand the ownership restriction; value of the property covered against loss by fire

Sen. Harbin (16th) explained his substitute.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 2:22 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:
Gould Hagler, Independent Insurance Agents
Rick Viall, Viall Insurance Agency

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion **SB 137 Do Pass by Substitute** and Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SB137 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2079S)

SB 158 (Sen. Dean Burke, 11th, LC 33 5978ER) "Consumer and Provider Protection Act"; provide certain consumer and provider protections regarding health insurance

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Marcus Downs, Medical Association of America

Trey Reese, Medical Association of America

Scott Lofranco, Georgia Dental Association

Jet Toney, Georgia Society of Anesthesiologists

Graham Thompson, Georgia Association of Health Plans, said his company needed more time and he had a lot of questions about the legislation.

Chairman Bethel (54th) introduced Ralph Hudgens, Commissioner of Insurance, and he introduced his new Legislative Liaison, Lindsey Scott.

After much discussion, Chairman Bethel (54th) said there would be no action taken on the bill at this time. He said he would like to have a new substitute at the next meeting.

Chairman Bethel (54th) adjourned the meeting at 3:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
February 4, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Thursday, February 4, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Gail Davenport (44th), Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Burt Jones (25th), and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 1:29 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence before the meeting started.

[SB 158](#) (Sen. Dean Burke, 11th, LC 33 5978ER) "Consumer and Provider Protection Act"; provide certain consumer and provider protections regarding health insurance

NOTE: Sen. Burt Jones (25th) arrived at 1:34 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) left the meeting.

Speaking against the bill:
Graham Thompson, Georgia Association of Health Plans

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion **SB 158 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 33 6433ERS)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
SB 158 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 33 6433ERS)

[SB 277](#) (Sen. John Albers, 56th, LC 36 2899) "Protecting Georgia Small Business Act"; neither a franchisee/franchisee's employee shall be deemed employee of franchisor

Those speaking in support of the bill:
Karen Bremer, Georgia Restaurant Association
Cosby Johnson, Georgia Chamber of Commerce

Sen. Burt Jones (25th) made a motion that **SB 277 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 2943S)**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
SB 277 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 2943S)

SB 290 (Sen. Bethel, 54th, LC 37 2078) Insurance; clarify those individuals not required to be licensed as insurance agent

Sen. Burt Jones (25th) made a motion that **SB 290 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2085S)**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
SB 290 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2085S)

Chairman Bethel adjourned the meeting at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
February 8, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Monday, February 8, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th)

NOTE: Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary, Sen. Burt Jones (25th) and Sen. Larry Walker (20th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence.

[SB 291](#) (Sen. Judson Hill 32nd, LC 28 7776ER) "Georgia Affordable Free Market Health Care Act"; provide definitions; physicians agreements are not insurance

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) left at 2:30 p.m. and returned at 2:37 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:
Kelly McCutchen, Georgia Public Policy Foundation

SB 291 was **Hearing Only**.

Chairman Bethel adjourned the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
February 11, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Thursday, February 11, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence.

[SB 302](#) (Sen. Martin, 9th, LC 33 6286) Insurance; require health carriers to maintain accurate provider directories

Sen. P. K. Martin (9th) presented the bill, along with a substitute (LC 33 6476S).

Speaking against the bill:

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

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Jeff Cornett, Hemophilia of Georgia
Marcus Downs, Medical Association of Georgia
Cindy Zeldin, Georgians for a Healthy Future
Meredith Gonsahn, Georgians for a Healthy Future
Blake Fulenwider, Georgia CMO Coalition
Beth Stephens, Georgia Watch
Ethan James, Georgia Hospital Association

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 2:18 p.m.

Chairman Bethel said that no motion would be made today and that he expected a new substitute next week. **SB 302** was **Hearing Only**.

[SB 15](#) (Sen. Donzella James, 35th, LC 37 1832) Minimum Wage Law; provide for substantive and comprehensive reform; provisions

Speaking against the bill:
Karen Bremer, Georgia Restaurant Association

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) arrived at 2:45 p.m.

Chairman Bethel (54th) asked Sen. Vincent Fort (39th) to present his bills since they were both similar to **SB 15**.

[SB 292](#) (Sen. Fort, 39th, LC 36 2831) **Minimum Wage Law; preemption of wage and employment benefit mandates adopted by a local government entity; repeal certain provisions**

[SB 293](#) (Sen. Fort, 39th, LC 36 2830) **Minimum Wage; revise certain provisions; provide for increase Minimum Wage; revise certain provisions; provide for increase**

Speaking for **SB 292 & SB 293**:
Fred Brooks, Professor, Georgia State University

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) left at 2:50 p.m.

Wesley Tharp, Senior Policy Analyst at Georgia Budget and Policy Institute
Carol Cartharn, Homecare worker
Yusuf Ali, Small Business Owner
Precious Boston, Domestic worker
Ted Terry, Mayor of Clarkston
Rev. Harriet Bradley, Fight for 15

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) left at 2:58 p.m. and returned at 3:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Davenport (44th) left at 3:06 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) and Sen. Davenport (44th) returned at 3:08 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) left at 3:17 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) and Sen. Jones (25th) left at 3:20 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) left at 3:23 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 3:25 p.m.

Speaking for **SB 292 & SB 293** continued:
Marshall Rancifer, Fight for 15
Jazmine White, Fight for 15
Don Wilson, Vice-Chair, Democratic Party Caucus
Yvonne Robinson, Georgia State Secretary, AFL-CIO

After much discussion, Chairman Bethel (54th) said that these bills were for **Hearing only**.

Chairman Bethel adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
February 18, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Thursday, February 18, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) and Sen. Larry Walker (20th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 1:15 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence.

[SB 302](#) (Sen. Martin, 9th, LC 33 6286) Insurance; require health carriers to maintain accurate provider directories

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) arrived at 1:19 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) arrived at 1:22 p.m.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion that **SB 302 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 33 6520S)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 302 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 33 6520S)

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) arrived at 1:25 p.m.

[SB 347](#) (Sen. Bethel, 54th, LC 37 2118 ER) 'Georgia Captive Insurance Company Act'; provide extensive changes; provisions

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Lindsey Scott, Insurance Commissioner's Office
Stacy Freeman, Georgia Captive Insurance Association

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion that **SB 347 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2146ERS)**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-0. Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Jones (25th), Sen. McKoon (29th), Sen. Unterman (45th) and Sen. Walker (20th) voted yea. Sen. Shafer (48th) recused himself from the vote for a conflict of interest.

SB 347 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 37 2146ERS)

Chairman Bethel adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
March 7, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Monday, March 7, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. David Shafer (48th), Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Josh McKoon (29th) and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m. and asked the Committee for a moment of silence to prepare for deliberations.

[SR 1043](#) (Sen. Jeff Mullis, 53rd, LC 37 2137) Expansion on Autism Insurance Mandate; create Senate Study Committee

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) arrived at 2:15 p.m.

Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion that **SR 1043 Do Pass**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SR 1043 DO PASS

NOTE: Chairman Bethel (54th) left at 2:15 p.m. to present a bill at another committee meeting. Sen. Bethel (54th) asked Sen. Jones (25th) to preside in his absence because Sen. Martin (9th), Secretary, was expected to leave to present a bill in another committee.

[HB 882](#) (Rep. Darlene Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2115S) Insurance; foreign and alien insurer deposit requirement of securities eligible for investment of capital funds in certain amounts; eliminate

Sen. Judson Hill (32nd) spoke to the bill.

NOTE: Chairman Bethel (54th) returned at 2:20 p.m. and resumed the Chair.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 2:20 p.m.

Arthur B. "Skin" Edge, Georgia Link spoke in favor of the bill.

Chairman Bethel said that this bill would be on the agenda at the next meeting on Wednesday, March 9. **HB 882** was **Hearing Only**.

[HB 883](#) (Rep. Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2115S) Insurance; insurers rehabilitation and liquidation; change certain provisions

NOTE: Chairman Bethel (54th) left at 2:28 p.m. and Sen. Jones (25th) presided.

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that **HB 883 Do Pass**. Sen. Unterman (45th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Martin (9th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 883 DO PASS

[HB 884](#) (Rep. Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2105ER) Insurance; company action level event to include a health organization with certain total adjusted capital levels; revise definition

Sen. Jones (25th) said that this bill would be on the agenda at the next meeting and there would not be a vote taken.

[HB 975](#) (Rep. Jason Shaw, 176th, LC 37 2116ER) Commerce and trade; assets and liabilities; provide certain updates to the standard valuation law

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Lindsey Scott, Insurance Commissioner's Office

Bobby Potter, American Council of Life insurers

Sen. Harbison (15th) made a motion that **HB 975 Do Pass**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Walker (20th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 975 DO PASS

[HB 818](#) (Rep. Shaw, 176th, LC 36 2862) Workers' compensation; insurance, awards, benefits and administration; change certain provisions

Bobby Potter, American Insurance Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Sen. Walker (20th) made a motion that **HB 818 Do Pass**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Bethel (54th) will carry the bill in the Senate.

HB 818 DO PASS

Sen. Jones (25th) adjourned the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES ON THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
March 9, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Monday, March 9, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary, Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) and Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 11:28 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to prepare hearts and minds for deliberations.

[HB 402](#) (Rep. Eddie Lumsden, 12th, LC 36 2944S) Insurance; encourage employers to provide work based learning opportunities for students age 16 and older; provisions

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) arrived at 11:32 a.m.

Sen. Harbin (16th) made a motion that **HB 402 Do Pass**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jones (25th) will carry the bill in the Senate.

HB 402 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. P. K. Martin arrived at 11:33 a.m., after the vote on **HB 402**.

[HB 193](#) (Rep. Carl Rogers, 29th, LC 37 2084S) Life Insurance Consumer Disclosure Model Act; enact

Chairman Bethel (54th) said there would be no vote but it would be on the agenda on Thursday, March 10.

[HB 943](#) (Rep. Rogers, 29th, HB 943/FA) Contracts; additional limitations on indemnification and duty to defeat clauses which are void and enforceable in contracts for engineering or architectural services; provide

Chairman Bethel (54th) said there would be no vote but it would be on the agenda on Thursday, March 10.

[HB 903](#) (Rep. Brian Strickland, 111th, LC 36 2913) Labor and industrial relations; employment security; prevent fraud and abuse of the Unemployment Trust Fund

Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion that **HB 903 Do Pass**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 903 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) left at 12:02 p.m.

[HB 904](#) (Rep. Brian Strickland, 111th, LC 36 2914) Labor and industrial relations; employment security; change certain contribution rates and credits

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion that **HB 904 Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB904 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) returned at 12:05 p.m. after the vote on **HB 904**.

[HB 784](#) (Rep. John Carson, 46th, LC 36 3012S) Insurance; advertising and promotional items not exceeding \$100 will not be considered an unfair trade practice; provide

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 12:08 p.m.

Gould Hagler, Independent Insurance Agents, spoke in favor of the bill.

Sen. Walker (20th) made a motion that **HB 784 Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion.

Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion to adopt an amendment that increases the amount from \$50 to \$100 on lines 51 and 89. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the amendment was adopted.

Chairman Bethel asked for a motion in which the adopted amendment will create a substitute. Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion that **HB 784 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2205S)** and Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 784 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC37 2205S

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 12:18 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) left at 12:18 p.m.

[HB 965](#) (Rep. Mike Cheokas, 138th, LC 37 2114) "The Honorable Jimmy Carter Cancer Treatment Access Act"; enact

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that **HB 965 Do Pass**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 965 DO PASS

HB 866 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon, 146th, LC 37 2082) Insurance; multiple employer self-insured health plans; exempt from premium taxes

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that **HB 866 Do Pass**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion.

Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion to amend **HB 866** by deleting line 21 on Page 2 and adding “This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.” Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Chairman Bethel asked for a motion in which the adopted amendment will create a substitute. Sen. Shafer (48th) made a motion that **HB 866 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2206S)**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Walker (20th) will carry the bill in the Senate.

HB 866 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2206S

SR 1091 (Sen. Bethel, 54th, LC 37 2174) Hearing Aids for Children; create Senate Study Committee

Sen Jones (25th) made a motion that **SR 1091 Do Pass**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SR1091 DO PASS

HB 882 (Rep. Darlene Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2110S) Insurance; foreign and alien insurer deposit requirement of securities eligible for investment of capital funds in certain amounts; eliminate

Chairman Bethel (54th) told the Committee that **HB 882** would not be heard, but that it would be on the agenda for the March 10 meeting with a substitute.

HB 884 (Rep. Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2105ER) Insurance; company action level event to include a health organization with certain total adjusted capital levels; revise definition

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion that **HB 884 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2179ERS)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Martin (9th) will carry the bill in the Senate.

HB 884 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2179ERS

Chairman Bethel (54th) adjourned the meeting at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9th) Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR
March 10, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Thursday, March 10, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th) and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 1:45 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence to prepare hearts and minds for deliberations.

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) arrived at 1:50 p.m.

The following two bills were **Hearing Only**.

[HB 838](#) (Rep. Shaw Blackmon, 146th, LC 37 2159S) Insurance; carriers that sell certain health plans through an agent shall compensate such agent a minimum of 5 percent of collected premiums; provide

[HB 537](#) (Rep. Carl Rogers, 29th, LC 33 6082) Medical assistance; provide single administrator for dental services for Medicaid recipients and PeachCare for Kids participants; provisions

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) left at 2:05 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:
Dr. David Bradberry, Georgia Dental Association
Stephanie Lotti, Georgia Dental Association

Speaking against the bill:
Black Fulenwider, Georgia CMO Coalition

[HB 193](#) (Rep. Rogers, 29th, LC 37 2084S) Life Insurance Consumer Disclosure Model Act; enact

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that **HB 193 Do Pass**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 193 DO PASS

HB 943 (Rep. Rogers, 29th, **HB 943/FA**) **Contracts; additional limitations on indemnification and duty to defeat clauses which are void and enforceable in contracts for engineering or architectural services; provide**

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that **HB 943 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2204ERS)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 943 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2204ERS

SB 245 (Sen. Rick Jeffares, 17th, **LC 37 2026ER**) **Insurance; provide for access to opioid analgesics with abuse-deterrent properties; definitions**

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 2:20 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Dawn A. Randolph, Georgia Council on Substance Abuse
Kimberly Ramsour, Medical Association of Georgia

This was **Hearing Only**.

HB 216 (Rep. Micah Gravley, 67th, **LC 36 2993S**) **Occupational diseases; define certain terms; provisions**

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 2:28 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) left at 2:35 p.m.

NOTE Sen. Martin (9th) left at 2:40 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

John Buckholts, City of Forest Park Fire Dept.
Seth Bice, Cobb County Fireman
Brian Scudder, Gilmer Fire Dept.
Dwayne Jamisoa, Bartow County Fire Dept.
Jim Daws, Fireman

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) left at 2:55 p.m. and returned at 2:58 p.m.

NOTE: Chairman Bethel (54th) told the Committee that he wanted to present **HB 882** because he was going to lose a quorum and we would go back to the testimony afterwards.

HB 882 (Rep. Darlene Taylor, 173rd, LC 37 2110S) Insurance; foreign and alien insurer deposit requirement of securities eligible for investment of capital funds in certain amounts; eliminate

Chairman Bethel (54th) presented an amendment to the bill deleting lines 49 through 52 and inserting in lieu thereof the following: “ insurance arrangement nor agreement, and is not subject to state insurance laws.”

Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion to adopt the amendment. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Harbin (16th) made a motion that **HB 882 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2213S)**. Sen. Jones (25th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 882 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2213S

The testimony continued for **HB 216**.

Speaking for the bill:

Robert Singletary, Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs
Emily Bagwell, Georgia Property Casualty Insurance

Speaking against the bill:

Dan Kniffen, Drew Eckl & Farnham, LLP
Bobby Potter, State Farm Insurance & American Insurance Association and American Council of Life Insurers
David Uhlman, Association of County Commissioners this is correct spelling

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen. Harbison (15th) left at 3:02 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 3:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Shafer (48th) left at 3:15 p.m

NOTE: Sen. Jones (25th) left at 3:25 p.m.

Chairman Bethel (54th) adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. P. K. Martin (9th) Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE & LABOR
March 14, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Monday, March 14, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) and Sen. Josh McKoon (29th) were absent.

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. and asked for a moment of silence.

HB 216 (Rep. Micah Gravley, 67th, LC 36 2993S) Occupational diseases; define certain terms; provisions

NOTE: Sen. McKoon (29th) arrived at 3:07 p.m.

Sen. John Albers (56th) spoke in favor of the bill.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 3:12 p.m.

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion that HB 216 LC 37 2219S do pass by substitute. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion.

Sen. Bethel (54th) presented an amendment to LC 372219S that on page 1, line 18 after “disease” “or a risk factor for such disease.” Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion to adopt the amendment and Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. McKoon (29th) made a motion to **Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2222S)**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB216 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2222S

HB 838 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon, 146th, LC 37 2159S) Insurance; carriers that sell certain health plans through an agent shall compensate such agent a minimum of 5 percent of collected premiums; provide

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) left at 3:50 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Unterman (45th) left at 3:52 p.m.

There being no motion made on the bill, Chairman Bethel (54th) adjourned the meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE & LABOR
March 16, 2016

The Senate Committee on Insurance & Labor met on Wednesday March 16, 2016 in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Charlie Bethel (54th), Chairman
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th), Secretary
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)

NOTE: Sen. David Shafer (48th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Gail Davenport (44th), Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) were absent.

There were 2 Ex-Officio's appointed for this meeting: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) and Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th).

Chairman Bethel (54th) called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. and asked for a moment of silence to prepare everyone for the meeting.

NOTE: Sen. Davenport (44th) arrived at 8:35 a.m.

HB 838 (Rep. Shaw Blackmon, 146th, LC 37 2159S) Insurance; carriers that sell certain health plans through an agent shall compensate such agent a minimum of 5 percent of collected premiums; provide

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion that **HB 838 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 37 2220S)**. Sen. Thompson (14th) seconded the motion. The vote was 5 – 2. The yea votes were Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Thompson (14th) and Sen. Tippins (37th). The nay votes were Sen. Jones (25th) and Sen. McKoon (29th). Sen. Walker (20th) recused himself. Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) will carry the bill in the Senate.

HB 838 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 37 2220S

Chairman Bethel (54th) adjourned the meeting at 8:37 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Betty Conner, 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 Lindsey Tippins to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Insurance and Labor meeting on March 16, 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



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 Bruce Thompson to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Insurance and Labor meeting on March 16, 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

March 29, 2016

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 2016 Legislative Session:

<u>HB 303</u>	<u>SB 299</u>
<u>HB 537</u>	<u>SB 338</u>
<u>SB 15</u>	<u>SB 373</u>
<u>SB 19</u>	<u>SB 393</u>
<u>SB 29</u>	<u>SB 411</u>
<u>SB 32</u>	<u>SR 11</u>
<u>SB 42</u>	<u>SR 985</u>
<u>SB 43</u>	<u>SR 1035</u>
<u>SB 123</u>	<u>SR 1055</u>
<u>SB 136</u>	
<u>SB 196</u>	
<u>SB 200</u>	
<u>SB 204</u>	
<u>SB 229</u>	
<u>SB 245</u>	
<u>SB 249</u>	
<u>SB 265</u>	
<u>SB 286</u>	
<u>SB 291</u>	
<u>SB 292</u>	
<u>SB 293</u>	
<u>SB 295</u>	

Sincerely,

Betty Conner
Recording Secretary
Senate Insurance and Labor Committee