

Members of the Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations

2016 Legislative Session

Sen. John Albers, Chairman
District 56
1076 Canton Street
Roswell, GA, 30075

Sen. Greg Kirk, Vice-Chairman
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P.O. Box 6085
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Sen. Michael Williams, Secretary
District 27
3482 Keith Bridge Rd. Ste. 310
Cumming, GA 30041

Sen. Gloria Butler
District 55
6241 Southland Trace
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

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

Sen. P. K. Martin IV
District 9
455 Pine Forest Dr.
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Sen. Horacena Tate
District 38
121-A State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Rules of the Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations
2016 Legislative Session

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be four (4) 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 State and Local Governmental Operations 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 STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 2, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Horacena Tate (38th)

NOTE: Sen. P. K. Martin (9th) was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:58 p.m.

HB 73 (Rep. Scot Turner, 21st, LC 28 7301) Public officers; counties and municipalities provide by local law for district durational residency requirements; authorize

Rep. Turner (21st) presented the bill to Committee. There were no other speakers. Sen. Kirk (13th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Williams (27th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

HB 73 DO PASS

SB 274 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 40 1013) Budget in Certain Counties; repeal Act approved March 2, 1953

Chairman Albers (56th) presented the bill to Committee. There were no other speakers. Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

SB 274 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Martin arrived at 2:08 p.m.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 9, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)

NOTE: Sen. Gloria Butler (55th) and Sen. Horacena Tate (38th) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Butler (55th) arrived at 2:07 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Tate (38th) arrived at 2:17 p.m.

SB 313 (Sen. Brandon Beach, 21st, LC 39 1161) MARTA; provide property of Authority not used for transportation; subject to local planning/zoning requirements

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Mark Toro of North American Properties
Georgia Sierra Club
Andrew Tate of Advance Atlanta

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

Senator Fran Millar (40th)
Mike Lowery, Citizen
Dave Rittenhouse, Waxford HOA in Roswell
Bob Ross, Citizen
Jim Gilven, Alpharetta City Councilman

Sen. Beach (21st) presented the bill to Committee. Chairman Albers suggests amendments to lines 150-154, and 187, regarding local jurisdiction vote on sales tax. Sen. Martin posed questions to speakers both in opposition and support.

SB 313 HEARING ONLY

SB 297 (Sen. Lester Jackson, 2nd, LC 36 2866) Public Employees; authorize use of accrued leaves by adoptive parents; caring for the child after placement

Sen. Jackson (2nd) presented the bill to Committee. Sen. Kirk posited questions to the sponsor, and there were no speakers for or against the bill.

Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Kirk (13th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

SB 297 DO PASS

SR 809 (Sen. Vincent Fort, 39th, LC 39 1099) County and Municipal Governments; prohibit from entering into contracts with private entities; parking enforcement services-CA

Sen. Fort (39th) presented the bill to Committee. Sen. Martin (9th) and Sen. Williams (27th) posed questions to the sponsor. Sen. Fort (39th) agreed to meet with Legislative Council to clarify. Chairman Albers (56th) tabled SR 809 until the next meeting.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 16, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)
Sen. Horacena Tate (38th)

NOTE: Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman, was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 2:44 p.m.

SB 269 (Sen. Jesse Stone, 23rd, LC 29 6798) Counties; require local governing bodies; provide certain entities with certification of compliance with Code section; condition of funding

The following spoke as a neutral reference to the bill:

Bruce Patel, Georgia Municipal Association

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

David Schaefer, Latin American Association

Sen. Stone (23rd) presented the substitute bill to Committee. Chairman Albers (56th) invited public comment on the bill.

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Williams (27th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

SB 269 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 29 6901S

NOTE: Sen. Kirk (13th) arrived at 2:48 p.m.

SB 378 (Sen. Fran Millar, 40th, LC 28 7965) DeKalb County; change the composition of the governing authority

Sen. Millar (40th) presented the bill to the Committee. Sen. Williams (27th) posed questions about the bill concerning CEO salary.

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Elena Parent (42nd)

Phyllis Mitchell, DeKalb County Interim CEO

Sen. Henson (41st) testified that the bill should be treated as local legislation, not general, thus reflecting how the bill was originally submitted. Sen. Parent (42nd) testified in support of eliminating the CEO position but only after more studies are completed.

Sen. Tate (38th) made a motion **Do Not Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Butler (55th). The motion failed (4-2), with Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirk (13th), and Sen. Williams (27th) voting nay and Sen. Butler (55th) and Sen. Tate (38th) voting yea.

Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion **TABLE SB 378**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Tate (38th). The motion failed (4-2), with Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirk (13th), and Sen. Williams (27th) voting nay and Sen. Butler (55th) and Sen. Tate (38th) voting yea.

Sen. Kirk (13th) made a motion **Do Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Harbin (16th). The motion passed (4-2), with Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirk (13th), and Sen. Williams (27th) voting yea and Sen. Butler (55th) and Sen. Tate (38th) voting nay.

SB 378 DO PASS

SR 809 (Sen. Vincent Fort, 39th, LC 39 1099) **County and Municipal Governments; prohibit from entering into contracts with private entities; parking enforcement services-CA**

Sen. Fort (39th) presented his bill to the Committee. Sen. Martin (9th) and Sen. Williams (27th) addressed previous questions, expressing reservations on a “slippery slope” of code enforcement of cities by the state.

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

Kathleen Fleming, Georgia Municipal Association

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion **Do Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Tate (38th). The motion passed (5-1), with Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirk (13th), Sen. Butler (55th) and Sen. Tate (38th) voting yea and Sen. Williams (27th) voting nay.

SR 809 DO PASS

SB 356 (Sen. Michael Williams, 27th, LC 44 0029) **Animals; provide definition of term "owner"; impoundment of animals for any violation; caring for an impounded animal**

The following spoke in favor of the bill:

Deborah Barker, Humane Society of United States

Sen. Williams (27th) presented the bill to the Committee. Sen. Williams (27th) testified the purpose of the bill is for opportunity to codify the responsibility of cost for care of an impounded animal while it is in custody. Fees are waived if the owner is not found guilty of animal abuse, or charges are dropped.

The following spoke in opposition to the bill:

Frank Kaynee, Canine Coalition

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion **Do Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Harbin (16th). The motion passed unanimously.

SB 356 DO PASS

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, February 23, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)
Sen. Horacena Tate (38th)

NOTE: Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman, was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

[SB 400](#) (Sen. P. K. Martin, 9th, LC 29 6874ER) Superior Courts; allow clerks to utilize vendors of their choice for back-up records rather than Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority

Sen. Martin (9th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Williams (27th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously (5-0).

SB 400 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Kirk (13th) arrived at 2:15 p.m.

[SB 375](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st, LC 44 0057) Municipal Corporations; provide certain requirements and standards for the incorporation of new municipal corporations

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented a substitute to the Committee.

Chairman Albers (56th) submitted Amendment 1; to require all cityhood legislation to be introduced in the 1st year of the legislative biennium to allow time for completion of the new requirements within the bill. Sen. Kirk (13th) made a motion to adopt Amendment 1. The motion was seconded by Sen. Williams (27th). Amendment 1 was adopted unanimously (6-0).

Sen. Martin (9th) submitted Amendment 2; to allow, but not require, a Service Delivery Advisory Committee to be appointed. Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion to adopt Amendment 2. The motion was seconded by Sen. Tate (38th). Amendment 2 was adopted unanimously (6-0).

Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Martin (9th). The motion passed unanimously (6-0).

SB 375 DO PASS BY COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE LC 44 0136S

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, March 8, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)
Sen. Horacena Tate (38th)

NOTE: Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary, and Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 2:03 p.m.

HB 691 (Rep. Kevin Tanner, 9th, LC 29 6852ERS) Municipal courts; removal of appointed judges under certain circumstances; provide

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Honorable Gary Jackson, City of Atlanta Municipal Court Judge, Council of Municipal Court Judges of Georgia.

Chief Judge Margaret Gettle Washburn, City of Sugar Hill

Rep. Tanner (9th) presented the bill to the Committee. He testified that the bill would establish due process for removal of municipal court judges. No opposition testified. Sen. Martin (9th) and Sen. Harbin (16th) suggested adding language that excludes consolidated governments from new procedures.

Sen. Martin (9th) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**, which included the above new language. The motion was seconded by Sen. Harbin (16th). The motion passed unanimously (5-0). Sen. Bethel (54th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 691 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 29 7077ERS

HB 856 (Rep. Barry Fleming, 121st, LC 29 6846) Probate courts; bond required for judges; change provisions

Chairman Albers (56th), the Senate sponsor, presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Kirk (13th) made a motion **Do Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Butler (55th). The motion passed unanimously (5-0). Sen. Albers (56th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 856 DO PASS

HB 514 (Rep. Roger Bruce, 61st, LC 28 7553) South Fulton, City of; Fulton County; incorporate

The following spoke in support of the bill:

Camilla Moore, South Fulton GOP
Rodney Little, South Fulton Coalition HOA
Harold Reid, South Fulton NOW
Tony Philips, South Fulton Schools
Jacey Sebastian, South Fulton United
Debra Bazemore, citizen
Chuck McCervage, South Fulton CID

Rep. Bruce (61st) presented the bill to the Committee. Chairman Albers (56th) briefly explained that the bill had been recommitted as a general bill for the 2016 legislative session. Sen. Tate (38th) suggested changes to lines 296, 323, and 311. Sen. Martin (9th) expressed concerns over service delivery.

The following spoke in opposition:

Sen. Fort (39th)

Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion **Do Pass**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Tate (38th). The motion failed (3-2), with Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Martin (9th), and Sen. Kirk (13th) voting nay and Sen. Butler (55th) and Sen. Tate (38th) voting yea.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON STATE AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENTAL OPERATIONS**

The Senate Committee on State and Local Governmental Operations met in Room 125 of the Capitol Building on Tuesday, March 15, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. P. K. Martin (9th)

NOTE: Sen. Greg Kirk (13th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), and Sen. Horacena Tate (38th) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 5:03 p.m.

[HB 514](#) (Rep. Roger Bruce, 61st, LC 28 7553) South Fulton, City of; Fulton County; incorporate

Rep. Bruce (61st) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Williams (27th) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**. The motion was seconded by Sen. Martin (9th). The motion passed unanimously (3-0).

HB 514 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 28 8069S

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Michael Williams (27th), Secretary

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe, Recording Secretary

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Senator John Albers
District 56

COMMITTEES:
State & Local Governmental Operations,
Chairman
Public Safety, Vice Chairman
Finance, Secretary
Appropriations, Member
MARTOC Committee, Member
Chief Deputy Whip

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 Albers, I am returning the following general bills assigned to the Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee for the 2016 Legislative Session of the Georgia General Assembly.

No action was taken on the following legislation:

SR 507	SB 218	SB 376
SR 724	SB 272	HB 476
SB 10	SB 288	HB 527
SB 24	SB 294	HB 640
SB 186	SB 296	HB 749
SB 201	SB 300	
SB 210	SB 372	

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Jenny Guadalupe
Recording Secretary
Senate State and Local Governmental Operations Committee