

## 2016 SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION MEMBERS

**Honorable Sen. Tommie Williams, Chairman**

District 19  
148 Williams Avenue  
Lyons, GA 30436

**Honorable Sen. Steve Gooch, Vice-Chair**

District 51  
P. O. Box 600  
Dahlonega, GA 30533

**Honorable Sen. Brandon Beach, Secretary**

District 21  
3100 Brierfield Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004

**Honorable Sen. Frank Ginn, Ex-Officio**

District 47  
P. O. Box 1136  
Danielsville, GA 30633

**Honorable Sen. Bill Heath, Ex-Officio**

District 31  
2225 Cashtown Road  
Bremen, GA 30110

**Honorable Sen. David Lucas, Sr.**

District 26  
2594 Saratoga Drive  
Macon, GA 31211

**Honorable Sen. Valencia Seay, Ex-Officio**

District 34  
P. O. Box 960008  
Riverdale, GA 30274

**Honorable Sen. Lindsey Tippins**

District 37  
139 Midway Road  
Marietta, GA 30064

**Honorable Sen. Gloria Butler**

District 55  
6241 Southland Trace  
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

**Honorable Sen. Mike Dugan**

District 30  
106 Champion Drive  
Carrollton, GA 30116

**Honorable Sen. Bill Jackson**

District 24  
P. O. Box 528  
Appling, GA 30802

**Honorable Sen. Burt Jones**

District 25  
407 East Second Street  
Jackson, GA 30233

**Honorable Sen. Ben Watson**

District 1  
1326 Eisenhower Drive, #2  
Savannah, GA 31406

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 3:00 p.m. on January 28, 2016 in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Jackson (24th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Burt Jones (25th), Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) and Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Williams (19th) read the Committee Rules and asked for questions. There being none, Chairman Williams (19th) asked for a motion to adopt. Sen. Gooch (51st) made a motion to adopt the Committee Rules and Sen. Dugan (30th) seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Rules is attached.

Chairman Williams (19th) read the Committee Road-Naming Rules and encouraged everyone to get the road-naming resolutions to the Committee as early as possible. Chairman Williams (19th) then asked for a motion to adopt. Sen. Gooch (51st) made a motion to adopt the Committee Road-Naming Rules and Sen. Dugan (30th) seconded. The motion passed unanimously. A copy is attached.

Chairman Williams (19th) introduced GDOT Commissioner Russell McMurry.

Commissioner McMurry explained the Transportation Funding Act of 2015 annual 10-Year Strategic Plan, which includes five components: 1) Construction of new highway projects, 2) Maintenance of existing infrastructure, 3) Bridge repairs and replacements, 4) Safety enhancements and 5) Administrative expenses. He further stated that priority will be given to maintenance and expansion of improvement of highway infrastructure. He said first priority will be given to areas most impacted by traffic congestion and areas of the state in the most need of highway infrastructure to aid in attracting economic development. He also stated that additional information could be found at [www.GAroads.org](http://www.GAroads.org).

Chairman Williams (19th), asked how GDOT organizes and prioritizes projects. Commissioner McMurry said it does this using GDOT inspectors and collection of data for safety projects. Chairman Williams (19th) then asked how much money would be

available for local use. Commissioner McMurry said under this new plan, local budgets will see a 30% increase.

Sen. Tippins (37th) asked if GDOT completed a cost analysis on cars traveled to justify lane expansion.

Sen. Butler (55th) asked if there is room for work on Hwy. 316 in Gwinnett County. Commissioner McMurry said there are several projects from Atlanta to Athens included in the plan. Sen. Butler (55th) also asked about minority contract progress. Commissioner McMurry said GDOT is trying to be more engaged and inclusive in regards to minority contracting.

Sen. Beach (21st) commended the Commissioner and GDOT. He also asked if projects were ranked by congestion.

Chairman Williams (19th) thanked Commissioner McMurry for taking time out of his busy schedule to brief the Committee on the 10-Year Strategic Plan.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach, (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, Recording Secretary

## **2016 SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION RULES**

- (1) All meetings of the Committee shall be open to the public in accordance with Senate Rule [1-5-1].
- (2) The quorum for the Transportation Committee shall be seven (7) members.
- (3) A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or legislator whom he or she designates to do so. In the event that more than one member of the General Assembly has signed a measure, the principal author shall be the one whose name appears first in the list of authors.
- (4) The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon order of the Chairman.
- (5) The Chairman shall determine which bills, amendments, and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which measures are considered.
- (6) The Chairman shall have sole 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. All actions of any Subcommittee shall be approved or disapproved by the standing Committee.
- (7) These Rules may be amended or waived upon motion made and subsequently approved by a majority of the members of the Committee present at the meeting.
- (8) The Secretary of the Committee will have a copy of these rules distributed to all members of the Senate.
- (9) The recording of the minutes of the Committee and the Subcommittee shall comply with Senate Rule [2-1.7(d)].
- (10) The Rules of the Senate shall prevail in all matters not covered by Committee Rules.
- (11) Bills and resolutions, at the option of the Chairman, may be acted on at the first reading.
- (12) Senate Transportation Committee has adopted rules for road-naming/dedication Ch. 3, Pg. 7, Rule (3-4.01).

**2016 SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION  
ROAD NAMING AND DEDICATION PROCEDURE**

1) Definitions:

(A) “Road Facility” refers to any highway, road, street, bridge, interchange, intersection, or any other portion of any state, county, or city highway, road, or street system.

(B) “Dedication” is defined as designating a portion of an existing road facility in honor or memory of a person or organization. The legal name of the road facility shall not be affected or changed by a dedication.

2) An existing Road Facility may be dedicated in honor of a person.

3) Only new, non-developed road facilities may be named during the initial construction phase of the road facility. There shall be no renaming of existing road facilities.

4) The Committee shall not recommend for passage any resolution which dedicates or creates a new name for a new road facility for any road facility which is part of a county road system or city street system.

5) No resolution shall rename an existing state road facility; rather existing state road facilities may be dedicated by resolution.

6) No resolution may dedicate or create a new name for a new road facility in honor of any living person who currently holds public office.

7) No resolution shall dedicate or name a new name for a new road facility in honor of a living former public officer unless at least two years have elapsed since such person’s last day of their most recent service in public office.

8) Qualifications for individuals or organizations for whom a road facility may be dedicated or named:

(A) A person or persons who have attained national prominence generally recognized throughout the country. National prominence shall be defined as having been elected to national office and having served honorably in office without impeachment, having been awarded a national medal such as the Congressional Medal of Honor or the Presidential Medal of Freedom, having won an award such as a Nobel Prize or having sacrificed one’s life for the protection of this country or who has contributed to the arts and sciences.

(B) A person whose achievements, accomplishments, or contributions are worthy of recognition throughout the State of Georgia; and who has through birth,

residence, or otherwise, a natural and logical connection to the geographic area in which is located the portion of the system to be named in such person's honor.

9) All resolutions shall be forwarded to the Rules Committee with a recommendation for a structured rule. In the Senate all dedication resolutions must be engrossed.

10) Advertisements for dedications:

(A) No resolution will be considered unless the sponsoring legislator has run a legal advertisement in the legal organ of each county in which the road facility to be dedicated is located. A copy of the advertisement must be provided to the Committee.

(B) The advertisement shall include the following:

1. The State Senate, 206 Washington Street, SW, Atlanta, 30334;
2. The name and location of the road facility;
3. The person for whom the dedication is intended and the reasons for the dedication.

11) The road facility to be dedicated or named, if a new road facility must be wholly within the sponsoring legislator's district.

12) The Committee shall not recommend for passage any resolution referred to in this rule until and unless the Committee has received from the Department of Transportation a written communication stating whether such road facility has been previously named or dedicated and, in the case of a highway, road, or street, stating whether any other portion of such highway, road, or street has been previously named or dedicated.

13) In considering the recommendation for passage of any resolution referred to in this rule, the Committee shall consider:

(A) The importance of dispensing such honors in a manner which will recognize those whose achievements, accomplishments, or contributions are genuinely worthy of recognition at the state level;

(B) The limited number of road facilities available for dedication; and

(C) The importance of not diminishing such honors through indiscriminately dispensing an inordinate number of such honors.

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 2, 2016 in Room 125 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Jackson (24th)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)  
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Chairman Williams (19th) introduced Mr. Ehren T. Bingaman, Director of Transportation Planning for HNTB Corporation. Mr. Bingaman gave a presentation to the Committee regarding his company.

Mr. Bingaman stated that in 2014, HNTB Corporation, in partnership with the Metro Atlanta Chamber, submitted a study of “Economic Benefits of Investing in Transportation.” He said the document served as a resource to the Joint Study Committee on Critical Transportation Infrastructure Funding, leading to the Georgia State General Assembly enacting HB 170. He said the study looks at best practices in transit investment and provides perspective of investing in transportation options like transit in Metro Atlanta. The report answers the following questions:

- 1) Why transit investment is important
- 2) How much has been invested in transit
- 3) Who benefits from increased transit funding
- 4) How much additional transit funding is needed
- 5) What happens if we do not increase transit investment

After a brief question and answer session from the Committee members, Mr. Bingaman concluded his presentation.

**SB 307 (Sen. Brandon Beach, 21st, LC 39 1168) Amends the definition of “Commercial Advertisements” and adds a definition of the term “multiple media display” within Title 32.**

Sen. Beach (21st) explained the bill. He stated that multiple media displays will need to comply with current law regarding the operational standards for multiple message signs; however, it is not required to comply with the current spacing requirements.

Connor Poe, Georgia Outdoor Advertising Association, expressed support for the bill.

Sen. Ginn (47th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1194S)** and Sen. Butler (55th) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 307 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1194S**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 4:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, Recording Secretary



## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 16, 2016 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. John Albers, (56th), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Jackson (24th)  
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)  
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 4:37 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Burt Jones (25th) was absent.

**SB 366 (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st, LC 39 1208) Authorizes the Department of Transportation to utilize an alternative method for selecting and contracting with profession services and other purposes.**

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill. He stated that current law requires state agencies to use a qualifications-based selection process through negotiated contracting for professional services for projects. He said this bill would authorize the DOT to utilize an alternative method to the selection process by selecting the lowest-priced proposal of a qualified professional service provider.

Tom Moreland, Moreland Altobelli Association, spoke in favor of the bill.

Michael Sullivan, ACEL of Georgia, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Sen. Dugan (30th) asked if there are 12 bidders, how do you cut the list to 5?

Sen. Gooch (51st) said the DOT Board would decide by going with the most qualified of the candidates and then a price would be negotiated.

Sen. Heath (31st) pointed out that Line 12 has “may” and Line 22 has “shall”. He felt it should be changed from “shall” to “may” throughout the bill.

Sen. Watson (1st) moved to change “shall to “may” throughout the bill, Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Watson (1st) moved **SB 366 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1316S)**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 366 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1316S**

**Hearing Only**

**SB 330 (Sen. Brandon Beach, 21st, LC 39 1201) Marta Expansion Bill – Authorizes each local government that has entered into rapid transit contract with MARTA and it levying a 1 percent sales tax, to levy an additional sales tax up to ½ percent contingent upon voter approval through a referendum.**

Sen. Beach (21st) explained that this legislation authorizes each local government that has entered into a rapid transit contract with MARTA and is levying a 1 percent sales tax, to levy an additional sales tax up to ½ percent contingent upon voter approval through a referendum. If this tax is approved in a county that has approved the 1 percent sales tax authorized for a Special District Mass Transportation Sales and Use Tax, the Special District sales tax will be reduced in the same amount of the new tax so that the combined sales taxes do not exceed 1 percent. Additionally, the new tax provided for in this legislation will not count toward any local sales tax cap provided in law and may be imposed in spite of the provisions of O.C.G.A § 48-8-6 relating to ceilings on local sales and use taxes. He said by May 31 of the year a referendum is to be called, MARTA must submit to each participating local government a preliminary list of rapid transit projects within or serving the geographical area of that local government that will be funded by the proceeds of the tax and a final list must be submitted by July 31. If the referendum is approved, then the contract between MARTA and the local government will authorize the levy and collection of an additional sales tax and the final list of rapid transit projects will be incorporated into the contract.

Sen. Beach (21st) further explained that a Planning Committee would be created in Fulton and DeKalb counties consisting of professional municipal staff chosen by each qualified municipality. He also noted that the City of Atlanta would not be included in the committees. He said the committee would review and collaborate with MARTA staff and make recommendations regarding the preliminary list of rapid transit projects to the MARTA Board as well as each local government. The committee must ensure that the list is consistent with local economic development considerations, local transportation plans, local zoning considerations, workforce accessibility, and such other matters that may be relevant. Before submitting the primary list of transit projects, MARTA must hold a meeting with each county commission and city council to discuss the rate of tax and the projects that will be funded in whole or in part by this tax. At least one meeting must be held at least 30 days before the submission of the preliminary project list and one meeting should be held at least 20 days before submission of the final projection. Sen. Beach (21st) said that before the additional levy can be imposed, it must be approved by the voters. He said a referendum will be held at the 2016 general election in each local jurisdiction by the adoption of an ordinance by June 30, 2016. However, a local

government may instead choose to hold a referendum in the November 2017 municipal general election by the adoption of an ordinance by June 30, 2017. Sen. Beach (21st) further stated that a referendum called by the Fulton or DeKalb County Commissions will not include the City of Atlanta, which will hold its own separate referendum. The expense of any election called by Atlanta will be paid by the city. If a referendum fails during the 2016 general election, the local government may elect to resubmit the proposition for the 2017 municipal general election, provided that the local government adopts an ordinance by June 30, 2017.

Chairman Williams (19th) asked if the citizens had presented a need for additional transit.

Sen. Beach (21st) said yes.

Todd Long, COO Fulton County, presented a slideshow in support of the bill.

Chairman Williams (19th) stated he felt the MARTA ballot question needed to be worded differently and that line 213-216 needed to be changed from “rail” to “transit” and from “5 percent” to “up to 5 percent.”

Sen. Lucas (26th) stated if the people want transit in their communities, then there should be a way to make that happen.

Sen. Albers (56th) stated that his constituents made it clear they were in total opposition to the bill. He also had concerns as to the way the language would be worded on the referendum, that it would be “leading the witness.”

Michael Fitzgerald, Alpharetta resident, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Mike Lowry, Alpharetta resident, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Keith Parker, CEO of MARTA, spoke in support of the bill.

Robbie Ash, MARTA, spoke in support of the bill.

Sen. Beach (21st) thanked Keith Parker and Robbie Ash for their comments in support of the bill.

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 6:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Beach (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, 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 John Albers to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 16, 2016. This appointment shall expire upon adjournment of the committee meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Lt. Governor Casey Cagle  
President of the Senate

CC/tes

Cc:  
Senate Committee Chairman  
Fiscal Office  
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 David Shafer to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 16, 2016. This appointment shall expire upon adjournment of the committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Lt. Governor Casey Cagle  
President of the Senate

CC/tes

Cc:  
Senate Committee Chairman  
Fiscal Office  
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 Jeff Mullis to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 16, 2016. This appointment shall expire upon adjournment of the committee meeting.

Sincerely,

  
Lt. Governor Casey Cagle  
President of the Senate

CC/tes

Cc:  
Senate Committee Chairman  
Fiscal Office  
Appointee

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 3:00 p.m. on February 18, 2016 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) Secretary  
Sen. John Albers (56th), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Jackson (24th)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)  
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, appointed for this meeting  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) and Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) were absent.

**[SB 330](#) (Sen. Brandon Beach, 21st, LC 39 1201) Marta Expansion Bill – Authorizes each local government that has entered into rapid transit contract with MARTA and it levying a 1 percent sales tax, to levy an additional sales tax up to ½ percent contingent upon voter approval through a referendum.**

Joe Young, Attorney for the City of Atlanta, spoke in favor of the bill and explained the bill as it relates to the City of Atlanta.

Sen. Tippins (37th) said Line 165 of the bill allows DeKalb County to opt in rather than opt out.

### **The following spoke in favor of the bill:**

Sen. Heath (31st) asked each speaker if they rode MARTA to the meeting:

#### **Dave Williams, Vice President of Metro Chamber**

Did not ride MARTA to the meeting

#### **Betty Willis, Clifton Corridor**

Did not have access to ride MARTA, would have if MARTA was an option.

#### **Anne Hanlin, Director of North Fulton Council of Quality Growth**

Did not have access to MARTA from where she came from

#### **Joey Klein, Founder of Advance Atlanta**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**James Hunter, Citizen**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**Andrew Tate, Board member of Advance Atlanta**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**Brianta McCorkel, Sierra Club**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**Scott Selig, Citizen**

Did not ride MARTA

**Alyssa Davis, Advance Atlanta**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**Mark Torro, North American Properties**

Did not ride MARTA

**Bahari Height, Advance Atlanta**

Did ride MARTA to the meeting

**Robert Krane, Retired Delta Captain**

Did Ride MARTA to the meeting

**Janett Bell, CA Technologies**

Carpooled, but typically rides MARTA

**Ben Myers, Legislative Affairs, IBEW**

Did not ride MARTA

**NOTE:** Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) left the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

**The following spoke in opposition to the bill:**

**Barruth Fingerbaun, Ga. Tech Graduate**

Did not ride MARTA

**Dave Rittenhouse, Citizen**

Did not ride MARTA

**David Belle Isle, Mayor of Alpharetta**

Did not ride MARTA

**Michael Bolden, Americans for Prosperity**

Did not ride MARTA

Todd Long, COO Fulton County, gave a presentation in favor of the bill

Lee May, CEO of DeKalb County, spoke in favor of the bill, stating that he was excited to see Rail Expansion and felt the citizens should be allowed to make their voice heard through the referendum process.

Sen. Albers (56th) offered two (2) Amendments:

Amendment No. 1 would strike lines 226-229, and insert ‘Shall a special (insert percentage) percentage sales and use tax be imposed in (insert name of City or County)



for a period of time not to exceed (insert time) and for the raising of not more than an estimated amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for mass transit purposes” Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_’

Amendment No. 2 would strike lines 274-278.

Sen. Beach (21st) spoke against both amendments offered by Sen. Albers (56th)

Chairman Williams (19th) asked for a motion on Amendment No. 1.

Sen. Butler (55th) made a motion to adopt Amendment No. 1. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The vote was 9-3, and the motion failed. Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), Sen. Seay (34th), Sen. Shafer (48th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion. Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Heath (31st) and Sen. Albers (56th) voted against the motion.

Chairman Williams (19th) asked for a motion on Amendment No. 2

No motion was made so Amendment No. 2 failed.

Sen. Butler (55th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1328S)** and Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9 to 3. The yea votes were Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), Sen. Seay (34th), Sen. Shafer (48th) and Sen. Watson (1st). The nay votes were Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Heath (31st) and Sen. Albers (56th).

**SB 330 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1328S**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 4:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach, (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, 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 John Albers to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 18, 2016. This appointment shall expire upon adjournment of the committee meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Casey Cagle".

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 David Shafer to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 18, 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



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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 Jeff Mullis to serve as Ex-Officio for the Senate Transportation Committee meeting on February 18, 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

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 4:00 p.m. on February 23, 2016 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Jackson (24th)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)  
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio, was absent.

### **[SR 892](#) (Sen. Larry Walker, 20th, LC 39 1177) Recognizing Governor Sonny Perdue and dedicating a road in his honor**

Sen. Ginn (47th) moved **Do Pass** and Sen. Jones (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SR 892 DO PASS**

### **[SR 956](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st, LC 39 1175) Recognizing the Santee and Nacoochee Valley Historic Districts and dedicating three roads in their honor**

Sen. Ben Watson (1st) moved **Do Pass** and Sen. Beach (21st) seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **SR 956 DO PASS**

### **[SR 863](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st, LC 39 1164) Recognizing United States military veterans of the Vietnam War and dedicating a bridge in their honor**

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the resolution.

#### **PART I (Sen. Gooch, 51st)**

Dedicating the bridge on Highway 129 over Ivy Log Creek in Blairsville as the “Vietnam Veterans Memorial Bridge.”

**PART II (Sen. Mullis, 53rd)**

Dedicating Highway 114 from Lyerly, Georgia to the Alabama State Line to Major General William “Bill” Gayler and Brigadier General John “Pete” P. Johnson.

**PART III (Sen. Mullis, 53rd)**

Dedicating the intersection of U.S. Highway 41 and Georgia Highway 151 in Catoosa County as the “L. Wesley Smith Memorial Intersection.”

**PART IV (Sen. James, 35th)**

Dedicating US 278/Ponce de Leon Avenue from the intersection of Piedmont Avenue to the intersection of State Route 10/Freedom Parkway in Fulton County as the “Walt Frazier Highway.”

**PART V (Sen. Mullis, 53rd)**

Dedicating the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Highway 41 in Catoosa County as the “Private Lonnie S. Rhinehart Memorial Intersection.”

**PART VI (Sen. Mullis, 53rd)**

Dedicating the intersection of Battlefield Parkway and Lakeshore Drive in Catoosa County as the “U.S. Navy Petty Officer Randall Smith Memorial Intersection.”

**PART VII (Sen. Mullis, 53rd)**

Dedicating the intersection of Cove Road and Camp Road in Walker County as the “PFC Charles W. Bradshaw Memorial Intersection.”

**PART VIII (Sen. Henson, 41st)**

Dedicating the bridge on State Route 8/State Route 10 over Lullwater Creek in Fulton County as the “Michael Polak Bridge.”

Sen. Ginn (47th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1342S)** and Sen. Jackson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 863 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1342S**

**SR 978 (Sen. Frank Ginn, 47th, LC 39 1198) Honoring the life of Sheriff Dewey George Seagraves and dedicating an intersection in his memory**

Sen. Jackson (24th) moved **Do Pass** and Sen. Jones (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 978 DO PASS**

**SB 346** (Sen. Brandon Beach, 21st, LC 39 1135) **Relating to definitions relative to the "Environmental Policy Act," so as to exempt projects for the construction or improvement of public roads from environmental effects reports in certain instances**

Sen. Beach (21st) explained that under current law, if it is determined that a proposed governmental action may have a significantly negative effect to the environment, the government agency that is responsible for the project is required to prepare an environmental effects report. He also stated that the bill excludes state funded public road construction or public road improvement projects that do not exceed \$100 million, nor receive any federal funding from being required to prepare the report.

Sen. Beach (21st) introduced Ms. Meg Pirkle, Chief Engineer of the Georgia Department of Transportation, to assist in answering questions from Committee members.

Chairman Williams (19th) asked if resurfacing jobs would be required under the bill. Sen. Beach (21st) said no, not under this bill. Ms. Pirkle said GDOT would assist with resurfacing.

Sen. Jackson (24th) asked under HB 170, how much of the funding would be allocated to build roads and how much would go towards an environmental study.

Sen. Dugan (30th) asked Ms. Pirkle how the Department of Transportation came up with \$100 million, when the Commissioners said it was too much. Ms. Pirkle could not answer the question.

**The following spoke in opposition to the bill:**

Kevin Jeselnik, Attorney, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper  
Dr. Joseph Roberts, Society of Georgia Archaeology

Sen. Ginn (47th) moved **Do Pass** and Sen. Ben Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 346 DO PASS**

**SB 383** (Sen. Frank Ginn, 47th, LC 39 1313) **relating to the regulation of maintenance and use of public roads, so as to provide for the purpose of the Roadside Enhancement and Beautification Council**

Sen. Ginn (47th) presented the bill. He said this bill permits the removal or trimming of trees and vegetation on state rights of way that obstruct the target viewing zone of a building, sign, or structure upon commercial property.

Tom Gehl, Georgia Municipal Association, said GMA was neither for nor against the bill.

Ms. Talley Swift, Garden Club of Georgia, spoke in opposition to the bill.

Sen. Jones (25th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1357S)** and Sen. Beach (21st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 383 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1357S**

**SB 420** (Sen. Lindsey Tippins, 37th, LC 39 1340) **Relating to general provisions applicable to counties, so as to require referendum approval prior to the expenditure of public funds for the establishment of a fixed guideway transit; to provide for definitions**

Sen. Tippins (37th) presented the bill. Sen. Tippins (37th) stated the bill requires referendum approval prior to the expenditure of public funds for the establishment, maintenance and operation of a fixed guideway transit in any county, and that a mass transportation regional system participant and the governing authority of each county shall obtain approval from a majority of voters in a separate referendum question. He said the question on the ballot will be “Shall the expenditure of public funds for a fixed guideway transit within said county be approved?” “YES or NO”. He said such election shall be held in conjunction with the general election, general primary election, or presidential preference primary. He also mentioned that this bill does not apply to MARTA.

Chairman Williams (19th) said the term “fixed transit” would not affect TSLOST

Sen. Beach (21st) made it clear the bill would not affect SB 330.

Sen. Dugan (30th) said that line 32 of the bill should strike “or” and add a comma after “and.”

Chairman Williams (19th) asked for a motion on the amendment. Sen. Dugan (30th) made a motion to adopt his amendment and Sen. Gooch (51st) seconded the motion. The amendment passed by a vote of 8 to 3. Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th), Tippins 37th) and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor.

Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) and Sen. Seay (34th) were the nay votes.

Sen. Dugan (30th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1356S)** and Sen. Gooch (51st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8 to 3. Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th), Tippins 37th) and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor.

Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) and Sen. Seay (34th) were the nay votes.

**SB 420 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1356S**



There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 4:00 p.m. on March 8, 2016 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th)  
Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Vice-Chairman Gooch (51st) called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman, Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio, Sen. Bill Jackson (24th), Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) and Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) were absent.

### **[SR 1085](#) (Sen. Steve Gooch, 51st, LC 39 1365) Creating the Senate Regional Transit Solutions Study Committee**

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the resolution. He stated the resolution creates the Senate Regional Transit Solutions Study Committee in order to determine what role a region-wide transit system should play in mitigating congestion in Atlanta. He also added that traffic congestion in Atlanta was among the worst in the nation and this study committee is required to evaluate and propose solutions. He further stated that the committee shall determine whether one comprehensive regional transit plan, a county-by-county plan or a city-by-city approach would be more beneficial to the state. Additionally, he said input by local officials, as well as citizens, would be welcomed.

Sen. Beach (21st) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1388S)** and Sen. Seay (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **SR 1085 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1388S**

### **[HR 1052](#) (Rep. Mike Cheokas, 138th, LC 39 1378S) Bridges, Roads, Highways, Intersections and Interchanges dedications**

Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the resolution.

#### **PART I (Sen. Miller, 49th)**

Dedicating the intersection of SR 53 and McEver Road in Hall County as the “Corporal Matthew Britten Phillips Memorial Intersection.”

**PART II (Sen. M. Williams, 27th)**

Dedicating the intersection of Highway 20 and Market Place Boulevard in Forsyth County as the “Sergeant David Paul ‘Bubba’ Land Memorial Intersection.”

**PART III (Sen. Parent, 42nd)**

Dedicating the bridge on State Route 42/Briarcliff Road over the south fork of Peachtree Creek in DeKalb County as the “Ambassador David Adelman Bridge.”

**PART IV (Sen. M. Williams, 27th)**

Dedicating the intersection of State Route 306 and State Route 369 in Forsyth County as “Hammond's Crossing.”

**PART V (Sen. M. Williams, 27th)**

Dedicating the intersection of Highway 9 and Highway 369 in Forsyth County as the “Coal Mountain Intersection.”

**PART VI (Sen. Orrock, 36th)**

Dedicating the bridge on Interstate 85 over Cleveland Avenue in Fulton County as the “Spencer Pass Memorial Bridge.”

**PART VII (Sen. Henson, 41st)**

Dedicating the bridge on Interstate 20 over Snapfinger Creek in DeKalb County as the “Robert Shane Wilson Memorial Bridge.”

**PART VIII (Sen. Wilkinson, 50th)**

Dedicating the bridge on Highway 17/State Route 75 over Cynth Creek in Towns County as the “Dyer Bridge.”

**PART IX (Sen. B. Thompson, 14th)**

Dedicating State Route 140 in Bartow County as the “Reverend Kenneth H. Coomer, Jr., Highway.”

**PART X (Sen. J. Hill, 32nd)**

Dedicating the portion of Interstate 575 from Bells Ferry Road to the Cherokee County line in Cobb County as the “Lance Corporal Skip Wells Memorial Highway.”

**PART XI (Sen. Black, 8th)**

Dedicating the portion of U.S. Highway 22/State Route 31 from the intersection of State Route 11 and State Route 31 in Lakeland to the intersection of State Route 7 and State Route 31 in Valdosta in Lowndes County as the “James Slaton ‘Jay’ Shaw Memorial Highway.”

**PART XII (Sen. Beach, 21st)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 141/Medlock Bridge Road from the southern limit of Johns Creek at the Chattahoochee River to the intersection with State Route 120/Abbotts Bridge Road in Fulton County as the “Mark Burkhalter Highway.”

**PART XIII (Rep. Cheokas, 138th)**

Dedicating the bridge on U.S. Highway 19 North over Buck Creek in Schley County as the “Thomas William Poole Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XIV (Rep. Gasaway, 28th)**

Dedicating the bridge on US 441/SR 15 over Interstate 85 in Banks County as the “Richard Chambers Bridge.”

**PART XV (Rep. Bentley, 139th)**

Dedicating the bridge on State Route 127 over the Flint River Overflow, three miles west of Marshallville in Macon County as the “Dr. Delores Felder Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XVI (Rep. Bentley, 139th)**

Dedicating the bridge on State Route 26 over the Flint River Overflow in Macon County as the “William Brown Bridge.”

**PART XVII (Rep. Battles, 15th)**

Dedicating the bridge over Raccoon Creek on Georgia Highway 133 west of Cartersville in Bartow County as the “Solomon T. ‘Sol’ Dover Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XVIII (Rep. Powell, 32nd)**

Dedicating the bridge on U.S. 29 over the Savannah River in Hart County as the “Louie Morris Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XIX (Rep. Beasley-Teague, 65th)**

Dedicating the bridge on Highway 92 North over the Chattahoochee River in Fulton County as the “Robert and Ardena Beasley Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XX (Rep. Houston, 170th)**

Dedicating the intersection of State Route 125/Bemiss Road/Valdosta Ray City Highway and State Route 122 at the meeting point of Lowndes, Berrien, and Lanier counties as “Walker's Crossing” in memory of Mr. William "Mr. Bill" and Ruby Herndon Walker.

**PART XXI (Rep. Jones, 167th)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 125 from the intersection of CR 354/Alapaha Lenox Road to the intersection at West Marion Avenue and Tifton Road at State Route 122 in Berrien County as the “Veterans Memorial Parkway.”

**PART XXII (Rep. Houston of the 170th)**

Dedicating the bridge on State Route 37/76 over Bear Creek in Cook County as the “Joel Jackson Parrish Bridge.”

**PART XXIII (Rep. Greene, 151st)**

Dedicating State Route 520 from Chattahoochee County through Dougherty County, including Stewart, Webster, Terrell, and Lee counties, as the “Purple Heart Highway.”

**PART XXIV (Rep. Welch, 110th)**

Dedicating the bridge over the Norfolk Southern rail lines/North and South Berry Streets on State Route 42 in Henry County as the “Martin Luther King, Sr., Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XXV (Rep. Rogers, 29th)**

Dedicating the bridge on Highway 129 over Lake Lanier as the “Longstreet Bridge.”

**PART XXVI (Rep. Hatchett, 150th)**

Dedicating the intersection of Highway 257 and the Highway 441 Bypass in Laurens County as the “TSGT Mack Fitzgerald Intersection.”

**PART XXVII (Rep. Coomer, 14th)**

Dedicating the intersection of State Route 20/Canton Highway and Roving Road/Smith Cline Road in Bartow County as the “Reverend Joe E. Edwards Intersection.”

**PART XXVIII (Rep. Frazier, 126th)**

Dedicating State Route 305 from its intersection with State Route 56 to the intersection of Old Wadley Road near the border of the city of Midville in Burke County as the “Samuel L. Cummings Highway.”

**PART XXIX (Rep. Peake, 141st)**

Dedicating the bridge on Riverside Drive over Interstate 75 in Bibb County as the “Mayor Lee Robinson Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XXX (Rep. Epps, 144th)**

Dedicating the bridge on Highway 112 over Interstate 16 in Wilkinson County as the “Steven Charles Brack Memorial Bridge.”

**PART XXXI (Rep. Powell, 171st)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 93 from State Route 112 in the community of Lester to State Route 300 in Baconton in Mitchell County as the “Harvey J. Morey Memorial Highway.”

**PART XXXII (Rep. Willard, 51st)**

Dedicating the interchange at Georgia 400 and U.S. 19 in Sandy Springs as the “Mayor Eva Cohn Galambos Memorial Interchange.”

**PART XXXIII (Rep. Ralston, 7th)**

Dedicating the intersection of Highway 515/U.S.75 and the Orvin Lance Connector as the “Sergeant First Class Ray F. Lents Memorial Intersection.”

**PART XXXIV (Rep. Ralston, 7th)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 60 where the road diverges from Old U.S. 76 and proceeds west toward Blue Ridge to the intersection of State Route 60/Old U.S. 76/Morganton Highway and Thomas Street in Fannin County as the “Barbara Stephens Memorial Highway.”

**PART XXXV (Rep. Ralston, 7th)**

Dedicating the intersection of State Route 5/Blue Ridge Drive and Tennessee Avenue in Fannin County as the “Roy L. Chapman Intersection.”

**PART XXXVI (Rep. Powell, 32nd)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 59 from the intersection with State Route 17 to Highway 164/Bold Springs Road in Franklin County as the “Billy Dilworth Memorial Highway.”

**PART XXXVII (Sen. T. Williams, 19th)**

Dedicating the bridge on U.S. 280 over the Oconee River in Montgomery County as the “Veterans Memorial Bridge. “

**PART XXXVIII (Rep. Jackson, 128th)**

Dedicating the portion of State Route 15 from Womack Lane to the Johnson County line as the “Jimmy B. Lord Highway.”

Sen. Jones (25th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1378S)** and Sen. Beach (21st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HR 1052 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1378S**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Vice-Chairman at 4:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, Recording Secretary

## Senate Committee on Transportation

A meeting of the Senate Committee on Transportation was held at 3:30 p.m. on March 10, 2016 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were present:

Sen. Tommie Williams (19th), Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary  
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th) Sen. Mike Dugan (30th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Bill Jackson (24th)  
Sen. Burt Jones (25th)  
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Williams (19th) called the meeting to order at 3:34 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Vice-Chairman, and Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio, were absent.

**[HB 21](#) (Rep. John Carson, 46th, LC 39 0808) Relating to the creation of the transit authority by special legislation and the authority's attributes and powers, so as to repeal a population provision relative to creation of a transit authority within metropolitan areas**

Rep. Carson (46th) explained the bill. He said that current law authorizes the General Assembly to create a transit authority to acquire and construct a mass transit system within the metropolitan area. He also stated that any city whose population has exceeded 43,617, together with the suburban area must be more delimited by the General Assembly. He said in essence, this bill repeals the "Population Act."

**NOTE:** Sen. Bill Heath (31st) arrived at 3:39 p.m.

Sen. Seay (34th) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1399S)** and Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**HB 21 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1399S**

**[HB 499](#) (Rep. Alan Powell, 32nd, LC 39 1240S) Relating to motor vehicles and traffic, so as to provide for the nonrenewal and nonissuance of driver's licenses for certain reasons; to provide for the nonrenewal and nonissuance of motor vehicle registrations for certain reasons; to provide for automated traffic enforcement safety devices in school zones**

Rep. Powell (32nd) presented the bill. He explained that the legislation authorizes the use of photo radar in school zones for violations that occur during normal hours of school. He

said photo radar may be operated by police officers or by private individuals known as “agents.” He further stated the driver will be liable for a \$125.00 civil monetary penalty if the vehicle is found to have violated a school zone’s speed limit. Processing fees may also be imposed. He said within 30-60 days of obtaining the name and address of the owner of the vehicle, the law enforcement agency must send the citation by first-class mail to the owner. Additionally, the letter must also include a recorded image of the vehicle at the time of infraction, the website address where the recorded images can be viewed, a copy of the certificate from the police stating that based on the inspection of the recorded images, the vehicle violated the school zone’s speed limit and a warning that failure to pay the fees or contest them in a timely manner waives any right to contest the citation.

Rep. Powell (32nd) offered an amendment to change Line 164 from “school zone” to “school system.”

Sen. Watson (1st) had concerns regarding the proof of who was driving the vehicle at the time of infraction. Rep. Powell (32nd) had those same concerns and for that reason this legislation will not be on the point system.

Sen. Ginn (47th) asked Rep. Powell (32nd) if he thought this legislation could lead to installing crosswalks in the near future. Rep. Powell (32nd) said he wouldn’t have a problem with that if it would slow people down.

Sen. Ginn (47th) asked what would happen if no one pays the fine. Rep. Powell (32nd) said it would then go to small claims court.

**NOTE:** Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) left at 3:54 p.m.

Sen. Seay (34th) stated that school buses have arms and stop signs already equipped on them for safety measures and she was interested to know who asked for this legislation. Rep. Powell (32nd) said that school superintendents were concerned because police personnel are short staffed and could use some additional reinforcement.

**NOTE:** Sen. Valencia Seay (34th) left at 3:58 p.m.

Sen. Jones (25th) stated this legislation would be totally voluntary by each school system.

Judge Gary Jackson, Municipal Court, spoke but made it clear he was not speaking in favor of or against the bill. He was invited just to answer questions as they relate to current law.

Andrew Heath, State Traffic Engineer with the Department of Transportation, spoke in favor of the bill.

Jason Broce, Children’s Healthcare of Atlanta, spoke in favor of the bill.



Chairman Williams (19th) asked for a motion on the amendment. Sen. Jones (25th) made a motion and Sen. Beach (21st) seconded the motion. The amendment passed by a vote of 5 to 4. Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th) and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor.

Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against it.

Sen. Watson (1st) moved **Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 1400S)** and Sen. Jones (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5 to 4. Sen. Beach (21st), Sen. Dugan (30th), Sen. Jackson (24th), Sen. Jones (25th) and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor.

Sen. Butler (55th), Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Lucas (26th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against it.

**HB 499 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 39 1400S**

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned by the Chairman at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Secretary

/s/ Audrey Lee, Recording Secretary

April 1, 2016

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

Dear Mr. Cook:

On behalf of Chairman Williams, I am returning herewith to your office the following bills and resolutions that were not acted upon this year by the Senate Committee on Transportation:

[SB 144](#)  
[SB 170](#)  
[SB 313](#)  
[SR 40](#)  
[SR97](#)  
[SR 159](#)  
[SR 290](#)  
[SR 355](#)  
[SR 410](#)  
[SR 411](#)  
[SR 453](#)  
[SR 525](#)

[SR 550](#)  
[SR 607](#)  
[SR 726](#)  
[SR 805](#)  
[SR 847](#)  
[SR 849](#)  
[SR 893](#)  
[SR 921](#)  
[SR 925](#)  
[SR 926](#)  
[SR 929](#)  
[SR 941](#)

[SR 952](#)  
[SR 953](#)  
[SR 961](#)  
[SR 984](#)  
[SR 989](#)  
[SR 1036](#)  
[SR 1039](#)  
[SR 1041](#)  
[SR 1057](#)  
[SR 1062](#)  
[SR 1086](#)  
[HB 214](#)

Sincerely,

Audrey Lee  
Senate Committee on Transportation, Recording Secretary