

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
MEMBERS - 2017 - 2018**

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MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
February 1, 2017

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Wednesday, February 1, 2017 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary (Arrived late)
Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Arrived late)

NOTE: Sen. Steve Henson (41st) and Sen. John Wilkinson (50th) were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m. and asked Sen. Hill (4th) to say a prayer.

NOTE: Sen. Harper (7th) arrived at 2:07 p.m.

Chairman Ginn (47th) told the Committee that there was a new Rule added and asked for a motion to adopt the Rules. Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion to adopt the Rules and Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. A copy of the Rules is attached.

SB 48 (Sen. Heath, 31st, LC 40 1281) Hunting, Trapping, and Fishing License; hunting licenses that are renewed before expiration; freeze the cost

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SB 48 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Tippins (37th) arrived at 2:21 p.m.

SB 65 (Sen. Ginn, 47th, LC 40 1284) Tire Disposal Restrictions and Fees; new tire retailers that collect a fee; require to collect such fee whether or not scrap tires are relinquished to retailer

Jeff Cowen, with Environmental Protection Division, spoke in favor of the bill.

Chairman Ginn (47th) presented his substitute and asked for a motion on the bill.

Sen. Brass (28th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Jeffares (17th) seconded the motion and the motion passed with a vote of 5-4, with the Chairman voting yea to break the tie. Voting yea were Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Jeffares (17th). Those voting nay were Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Heath (31st) and Sen. Tippins (37th).

SB 65 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 40 1369S

Sen. Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
RULES - 2017 - 2018 SESSION**

1. These Committee Rules of Operation shall be consistent with Senate Rule 2-1.5(d) regarding the establishment of Rules of Operation.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be Six (6) members.
3. The Chairman shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered; the Chairman shall have the authority to call a bill, resolution, substitute or amendment for debate and explanation only.
4. The Chairman shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to Subcommittees for study. Such Subcommittees in turn shall have the authority to make recommendations on such measures to the full Committee at such time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
6. A bill or resolution will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or other legislator whom he/she may designate. The principal author shall be the legislator whose name appears first on the list of authors.
7. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
8. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree(s) with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
9. These Rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
10. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern.
11. Any individual wishing to **video** a meeting may **ONLY** set up video equipment in an approved location by the Chairman and only in so much as it does not disrupt or distract from the meeting.

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE
ENVIRONMENT
February 15, 2017**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary
Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

NOTE: Sen. Steve Henson (41st) and Sen. Jack Hill (4th) were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and asked Sen. Wilkinson (50th) to say a prayer.

SB 128 (Sen. Wilkinson, 50th, LC 40 1356ER) Drivers' Licenses; Department of Natural Resources; limited purposes; allow for the sharing of personal data

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 128 DO PASS

SB 122 (Sen. Michael Williams, 27th, LC 40 1377ER) Open Seasons for Hunting Deer; provisions; change

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:20 p.m.

John Bowers, from the Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division spoke to the legislation.

Chairman Ginn (47th) asked for a motion and there being none, Sen. Harper (7th) asked that a vote be delayed till another meeting and the Chairman agreed.

SB 152 (Sen. Ginn, 47th, LC 40 1330) Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia; create

Those speaking in support of the bill were:

Clint Elliott, Flint Riverkeeper
Doug Miell, Georgia Chamber
Richard Candler, Flint Riverkeeper
Chris Manganiello, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

Sen. Wilkinson (50th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion and the motion passed 7-1. The yea votes were Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Jeffares (17th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Tippins (37th), and Sen. Wilkinson (50th). The nay vote was Sen. Heath (31st).

SR 152 DO PASS

Sen. Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE
ENVIRONMENT
February 27, 2017**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Monday, February 27, 2017 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary
Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. and asked Sen. Wilkinson to say a word of prayer.

HB 183 (Rep. Robert Dickey, 140th, LC 36 3184) Community Affairs, Department of; Georgia Geospatial Advisory Council; recreate

Sen. Wilkinson (50th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Henson (41st) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Brass (28th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 183 DO PASS

SB 122 (Sen. Michael Williams, 27th, LC 40 1377ER) Open Seasons for Hunting Deer; provisions; change

Sen. Harper (7th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion and the motion passed 8-2. The yea votes were Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Tippins (37th), and Sen. Wilkinson (50th). The nay votes were Sen. Heath (31st) and Sen. Jeffares (17th).

SB 122 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 40 1490ERS)

SB 191 (Sen. Jeffares, 17th, LC 36 3256) Petroleum Pipelines; regulation and permitting in this state; definitions; provide

Those speaking in favor of the bill:

Hunter Hopkins, Georgia Petroleum Council
Rusty Sewell, Colonial Pipeline
Stephanie Kindregan, Kinder Morgan
Russ Pennington, Colonial Oil

Sen. Henson (41st) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Jeffares (17th) seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-1. The yea votes were Sen. Jeffares (17th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Tippins (37th) and Sen. Wilkinson (50th). The nay vote was Sen. Hill (4th).

SB 191 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3343S

Sen. Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
March 15, 2017

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary (Arrived late)
Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Arrived late)
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m. and asked Sen. Wilkinson (50th) to say a word of prayer.

HR 362 (Rep. Lynn Smith, 70th, LC 40 1390) Joint Study Committee on Stream Buffers in Georgia; create

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:11 p.m.

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Wilkinson (50th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Ginn (47th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HR 362 DO PASS

HB 153 (Rep. Terry Rogers, 10th, LC 40 1315) Council on American Indian Concerns; attach to Department of Natural Resources

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 1:17 p.m.

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

HB 153 DO PASS

HB 208 (Rep. Trey Rhodes, 120th, LC 40 1401ERS) Game and fish; boat registration fees and additional methods for reporting the sale of boats; revise

The following spoke in favor of the bill:

Chris Manganello, Chattahoochee Riverkeeper, Quality Deer Management Association

Randy Robertson, Fraternity Order of Police

Lynn Lewis-Weis, National Wild Turkey Federation

Robert Ramsay, Georgia Conservancy

Reggie Dicky, Georgia Hunting and Fishing Federation

Scott James, Ducks Unlimited

Scott Tanner, Heritage & Wildlife Council

Brooks Schoen, Coastal Conservation Association

NOTE: Sen. Tippins (37th) arrived at 1:19 p.m.

Frank Mulcahy, Georgia Canine Coalition

Tiffany Woods, National Wildlife Federation

Jimmy Harris, Unicoi Outfitters

Kathy Breithaupt, Trout Unlimited

Charlie Breithaupt, Trout Unlimited

NOTE: Sen. Harper (7th) arrived at 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 1:31 p.m.

Chris Borders, private citizen

Ron Warnken, National Wildlife Federation

Mike Worley, Georgia Wildlife Federation

April Lipscomb, Southern Environmental Law Center

Mitch Hunter, Yamaha Marine

Chairman Ginn (47th) presented an amendment to strike line 37 and insert in lieu thereof the following: resident hunting and fishing license valid only on the anniversary of such owner's date of birth. Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion to adopt the amendment. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Sen. Heath (31st) made a motion that he would like to incorporate a section of SB 48 into this bill, which would add the following amendment "the purchaser of any license who continually renews such license for the original purchase price including any fees, so long as each renewal thereof occurs prior to expiration of such license."

Chairman Ginn (47th) asked for a second. There being no second, the motion failed.

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute** and Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed 9 -1. The yeas were Sen. Jeffares (17th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Tippins (37th) and Sen. Wilkinson (50th). The nay vote was Sen. Heath (31st). Sen. P. K. Martin (9th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 208 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 40 1519ERS

Sen. Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Harper (7th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT
March 22, 2017

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Wednesday, March 22, 2017 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Jeffares (17th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary (Arrived late)
Sen. Matt Brass (28th)
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

NOTE: Sen. Bill Heath (31st) and Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

HB 275 (Rep. Matt Dubnik, 29th, LC 40 1339ER) Game and fish; rules and regulations used to establish criminal violations; change provisions

Sen. Jeffares (17th) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. Sen. Harper (7th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 275 DO PASS

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 2:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harper (7th) and Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 2:13 p.m.

HB 271 (Rep. Jesse Petrea, 166th, HB 271/CSFA) Water resources; shore protection; revise various provisions

Speaking against the bill:
Jeff Ledford, Georgia Realtors
Carolyn Henry Rader, Center for Sustainable Coast
Brenda Constan, Initiative to Protect Jekyll Island

This bill was a **hearing only**.

Chairman Ginn (47th) asked if any of the members would be interested in attending a meeting with the Coastal Resources Division in April to discuss this legislation. The following members said they would attend:

Chairman Ginn (47th)
Sen. Brass (28th)
Sen. Harper (7th)
Sen. Henson (41st)
Sen. Sims (12th)

Sen. Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

FRANK GINN
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COMMITTEES:

Natural Resources and the Environment, Chairman
Regulated Industries and Utilities, Vice-Chairman
Appropriations
Transportation

The State Senate
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

April 5, 2017

Mr. 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 Natural Resources and the Environment Committee for the 2017 Legislative Session:

HB 271
SB 165
SR 565

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Betty Conner".

Betty Conner
Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee

Received
4/5/17
CKL