

## **Members of the Senate Committee on Science and Technology**

### **2017 Session**

Sen. Bruce Thompson, Chairman  
District 14  
25 Hawks Branch Lane  
White, GA 30184-3244

Sen. Lee Anderson, Vice-Chairman  
District 24  
160 Louisville Road  
Grovetown, GA 30813

Sen. Brandon Beach  
District 21  
3100 Brierfield Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004

Sen. Matt Brass, Ex-Officio  
District 28  
P.O. Box 1313  
Newnan, GA 30264

Sen. Elena Parent, Ex-Officio  
District 42  
774 Springdale Rd NE  
Atlanta, GA 30306

Sen. Valencia Seay  
District 34  
P.O. Box 960008  
Riverdale, GA 30274

## **SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

### **2017 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 Science and Technology Committee shall be three (3) members.
3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are 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 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.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
6. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.
7. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a Minority report in writing, setting forth concise reasons for their dissent.
8. These Rules may be amended or waived upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by a quorum of the Committee, in a meeting called by the Chairman.
9. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he or she has designated 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.
10. When these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.

**MINUTES OF  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Thursday, February 2, 2017

The Senate Committee on Science and Technology held a meeting on Thursday, February 2, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

Chairman Thompson (14th) called the meeting to order at 2:02 p.m.

**The following Senators were present:**

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman  
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Ex-Officio, were absent.

**SB 46 (Sen. William Ligon, Jr. 3rd) Torts; space flight activities; provide facilitation; definitions; exceptions**

Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) presented SB 46, giving a brief overview of space industry history.

Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) offered an amendment changing line 148 ‘assignors’ to ‘assignees.’ The amendment would also change line 109 to add ‘be in writing and’ and line 146 to add ‘that is in writing.’ Sen. Beach (21st) moved to adopt the amendment, and Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion to adopt the amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Seay (34th) moved **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 46 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3211S**

With no further business, Chairman Thompson (14th) adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman

/s/ Lucy Felker, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Thursday, February 9, 2017

The Senate Committee on Science and Technology held a meeting on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

**The following Senators were present:**

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman  
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Thompson (14th) called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

The meeting began with a presentation from General Motors on autonomous vehicles. Then Tiffany Wilson, Director of the Global Center for Medical Information, gave a presentation on technology in her field.

**SB 117 (Sen. P. K. Martin, 9th) Georgia Technology Authority; definition of the term "agency"; change; establishment of certain policies and standards used by all agencies; provide**

Sen. Martin (9th) presented the bill and called Jeff McCord of GTA to present alongside him and offer clarifications on the bill.

Sen. Seay (34th) moved **Do Pass**. Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SB 117 DO PASS**

With no further business, Chairman Thompson (14th) adjourned the meeting at 2:39 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman

/s/ Lucy Felker, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**  
Thursday, February 16, 2017

The Senate Committee on Science and Technology held a meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

**The following Senators were present:**

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman  
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st)  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Ex-Officio, was absent.

Chairman Thompson (14th) called the meeting to order at 2:18 p.m.

**SR 130 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, 52nd) Joint Transparency and Open Access in Government Study Committee; and for other purposes.**

Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) presented his proposed Committee substitute that would change the original Study Committee membership from 6 members to 12, with the addition of six private citizen appointments, three from each legislative chamber. The private citizen appointments from each body must be as follows: One member with expertise in health information technology; one member with expertise in data security or a related technology field; and one member from a stakeholder's group with expertise in the delivery of healthcare or other service provider utilizing public data in Georgia.

An amendment was offered by Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) to increase the total Study Committee membership to 14 members, by adding an additional appointment from each legislative body. Sen. Beach (21st) moved to adopt the amendment. Sen. Seay (34th) seconded the motion. The amendment was adopted unanimously.

Sen. Beach (21st) made a motion **Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Seay (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 130 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3280S**

With no further business, Chairman Thompson (14th) adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman

/s/ Lucy Felker, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Thursday, March 9, 2017

The Senate Committee on Science and Technology held a meeting on Thursday, March 9, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

**The following Senators were present:**

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman  
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) and Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Thompson (14th) called the meeting to order at 2:04 p.m.

**HB 1 (Rep. Jason Spencer, 180th) Georgia Space Flight Act; enact**

This bill limits liability for operators of space flight activities for tort actions, except in cases of gross negligence or intentional conduct.

Rep. Spencer (180th) presented the bill.

Chairman Thompson (14th) proposed an amendment to strike line 9 and renumber accordingly. Rep. Spencer (180th) said he agreed with the amendment.

Sen. Brass (28th) made a motion to adopt the amendment. Sen. Seay (34th) seconded the motion. The amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Seay (34th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th) will be the Senate sponsor.

**HB 1 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3371S**

**SR 318 (Sen. Harold V. Jones II, 22nd) Senate Cyber Challenge Study Committee; create**

Sen. Jones (22nd) presented the resolution to the Committee.

After taking questions, Chairman Thompson (14th) asked for a motion on the resolution. Sen. Seay (34th) moved **Do Pass**. Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 318 DO PASS**

With no further business, Chairman Thompson (14th) adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman

/s/ Lucy Felker, Recording Secretary



**MINUTES OF  
THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

Thursday, March 16, 2017

The Senate Committee on Science and Technology held a meeting on Thursday, March 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

**The following Senators were present:**

Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman  
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Valencia Seay (34th)

**Note:** Sen. Brandon Beach (21st) and Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Thompson (14th) called the meeting to order at 2:20 p.m.

**SR 410 (Sen. P. K. Martin, 9th) Senate Information Technology Corridors in Georgia Study Committee; create**

This resolution creates the Senate Information Technology Corridors in Georgia Study Committee in order to review current State initiatives as well as opportunities for future incentives for technology growth and study the establishment of specific corridors in this State that would directly foster the growth of information technology. Specifically, this resolution recognizes, but is not limited to, potential information technology corridors such as the route between Atlanta and Athens along Highway 316, the route between Atlanta and Macon along I-75, and the route between Atlanta and Augusta along I-20.

Sen. Martin (9th) presented the resolution and answered questions from the Committee. He clarified that he was presenting the substitute LC 43 0669S.

Sen. Anderson made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**SR 410 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 43 0669S**

With no further business, Chairman Thompson (14th) adjourned the meeting at 2:27 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th), Chairman

/s/ Lucy Felker, Recording Secretary