

SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES AND UTILITIES

MEMBERS 2018

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Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio
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Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
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Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio
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**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

January 30, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, January 30, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th) Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) and Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. and asked Sen. Kennedy (18th) to have a word of prayer.

Chairman Ginn (47th) welcomed Sen. Albers (56th) as a new member.

Chairman Ginn (47th) explained that since he was the new Chairman that the Committee Rules had to be adopted and asked for a motion. Sen. Harbison (5th), Ex-Officio, made a motion to adopt the Rules. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and the Rules passed unanimously. They appear on the page following this day's minutes.

HB 475 (Rep. Harden, 148th) Charitable solicitations; use of collection receptacles for donations; implement additional requirements

Rep. Bubber Epps (144th) presented the bill for Rep. Harden (148th) and explained that the bill was carried over from last session. He explained the changes in the substitute to amend the language on line 85 and 89 to change the amount from \$25,000 to \$5,000.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) made a motion to amend the bill with the changes. Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Sen. Greg Kirk (13th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 475 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3512S

SB 17 (Sen. Unterman, 45th) Alcoholic Beverages; provide governing authorities of counties in which the sale for consumption is lawful; authorize certain time on Sundays

Speaking against the bill:

Pastor Mike Griffin, Georgia Baptist Minister

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Ms. Karen Bremer, Georgia Restaurant Association

Mr. Brian Bullock, CEO Legacy Adventures Hotel & Restaurant

Ms. Kathy Kuzava, Georgia Food Association

Ms. Angela Holland, Georgia Association of Convenience Stores

Mr. Thomas Beusse, Georgia Retailers

Mr. Jim Sprouse, Georgia Hotel & Lodging Association

Mr. Todd Edwards, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia

Mr. Michael McPherson, Georgia Municipal Association

NOTE: Sen. Henson arrived at 3:40 p.m.

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and it passed 6-4. The yea votes were Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th), Sen. Miller (49th) and Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio. The nay votes were Sen. Cowsert (46th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Hill (4th) and Sen. Kennedy (18th).

SB 17 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3511S

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES AND
UTILITIES**

RULES 2017- 2018

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be six (6) members.
2. The Chair shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chair 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.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, put all questions, and adjourn upon the order of the Chair.
5. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
6. These Rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
7. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after a presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he or the Chairman designates to do so. In the event 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.
8. Substitutes and amendments shall be provided to the Chairman at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on any substitute or amendment not provided in advance.
9. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

February 6, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th) Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, and Sen. David Shafer (48th) were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and asked Sen. Kennedy (18th) to have a word of prayer.

SB 17 (Sen. Unterman, 45th, LC 36 3519S) Alcoholic Beverages; provide governing authorities of counties in which the sale for consumption is lawful; authorize certain time on Sundays

Sen. Mullis (53rd) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Unterman (45th) Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and the motion passed 9-2. The yea votes were Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Miller (49th), Sen. Mullis (53rd) and Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio. The nay votes were Sen. Cowsert (46th) and Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th).

SB17 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3519S

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES
February 13, 2018**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 13, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) (Arrived late, left early)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late, left early)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (Left early)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio (Arrived late, left early)

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. David Lucas (26th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:12 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 3:14 p.m.

Sen. Cowsert (46th) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio arrived at 3:16 p.m.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) arrived at 3:20 p.m.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 3:50 p.m. and returned at 3:55 p.m.

Chairman Ginn (47th) told the Committee that it would be a hearing only for **SB 232** and **SB 402**.

HEARING ONLY:

SB 402 (Sen. Gooch, 51st) "Achieving Connectivity Everywhere (ACE) Act"

Sen. Gooch (51st) explained his legislation.

Sen. Hill (4th) left at 3:26 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Kevin Curtin, AT&T

Mr. Todd Edwards, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia

Ms. Charlotte Davis, Georgia Municipal Association

Mr. Stephen Loftin, Georgia Cobb Association

Mr. Josh Waller, Georgia Department of Transportation

Ms. Jill Verner, Georgia Electric Membership Corporation

Ms. Ann Patterson, Dish Network

Sen. Cowsert (46th) left at 3:40 p.m.

Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, left at 3:53 p.m. and returned at 3:57 p.m.

Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 3:50 p.m.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 3:55 p.m.

SB 402 HEARING ONLY

HEARING ONLY:

SB 232 (Sen. Gooch, 51st) "Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion (FIBRE) Act"; enact

Sen. Gooch (51st) briefly went over his bill.

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, left at 4:00 p.m.

SB 232 HEARING ONLY

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 4:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

February 15, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, February 15, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary (Arrived late)
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio (Arrived late)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Steve Henson (41st), Sen. Jack Hill (4th), and Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

Sen. Lucas, Sr (26th) arrived at 4:12 p.m.

SB 355 (Sen. Hufstetler, 52nd, LC 36 3585S) Nuclear Generating Plant; recovery of the costs of financing the construction; provisions; change

Sen. Albers (56th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 355 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3585S

Sen. Cowsert (46th) arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Sen. McKoon (29th) arrived at 4:18 p.m.

SB 402 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3589S) "Achieving Connectivity Everywhere (ACE) Act"

Sen. Gooch (51st) explained the changes that were made in his bill.

Sen. Miller (49th) arrived at 4:22 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Jeff McCord, Georgia Technology Authority

Chairman Ginn (47th) recognized the Department of Community Affairs Commissioner Christopher Nunn and thanked him for coming to the meeting.

Sen. Mullis (53rd) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 402 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3589S

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that **SB 232** would not be heard today.

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

February 20, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 20, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman (Left early)
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53th) (Arrived late)
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio (Left early)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

Chairman Ginn (47th) told the Committee that there were three bills on the agenda and he hoped to vote out two and have a hearing on the other one.

Sen. Mullis (53rd) arrived at 3:10 p.m.

SB 396 (Sen. Shafer, 48th, LC 36 3517) Telephone System For Physically Impaired; state-wide dual party relay service and audible universal information access service; change provisions

Sen. Henson (41st) made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SB 396 DO PASS LC 36 3517

Sen. Gooch (51st) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

Sen. Cowsert (46th) arrived at 3:16 p.m.

Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) arrived at 3:17 p.m.

Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 3:18 p.m.

SB 426 (Sen. Gooch, 51st) "Broadband Infrastructure Leads to Development (BILD) Act"

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Todd Edwards, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that Sen. Gooch (51st) had arrived (3:15 p.m.) and he was going to let him explain his **SB 232** and come back to **SB 426**.

SB 232 (Sen. Gooch, 51st) "Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion (FIBRE) Act"; enact

Sen. Miller (49th) arrived at 3:18 p.m.

Sen. Gooch (51st) went line by line and explained his new substitute.

Sen. Shafer (48th) left at 3:30 p.m.

Sen. Lucas (26th) left at 4:02 p.m. and returned at 4:05 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Michael Wall, Comcast

Ms. Terry Lyndal, Chickamauga, Public Service Ringgold Telco

Mr. Jason Bragg, Electric Membership Corporation

Mr. Tom McCabe, TDS Telecom

Sen. Harbison (15th) left at 4:13 p.m. and returned at 4:14 p.m.

Sen. Albers (56th) left at 4:19 p.m.

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that this bill was on a very tough subject and that he applauded the author for bringing the bill and it would be on the next agenda, as would **SB 426**.

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

February 22, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, February 22, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Left early)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th) (Arrived late and left early)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53th)
Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio (Left early)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 2.05 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

SB 232 (Sen. Gooch 51st, LC 36 3622S) "Facilitating Internet Broadband Rural Expansion (FIBRE) Act"; enact

Sen. Gooch went over the changes in his substitute.

Sen. Miller (49th) arrived at 2:59 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Stephen Loftin, Georgia Cable
Mr. Jason Bragg, Georgia Electric Membership Corporation
Mr. Tom McCabe, TDS Telecom

Sen. Miller (49th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SB 232 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3622S.

SB 425 (Sen. Gooch, 51st) Professional Land Surveyors; provisions; change

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Mark Chastain, Chastain & Associates
Mr. Haygood, Department of Community Affairs

Sen. Gooch (51st) made a motion to amend lines 705 after employee of, to add “or contractor working on behalf of” and on line 707 and 708, after commission, to add “public education entity”.

Sen. Shafer (48th) left at 2:50 p.m.

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, left at 2:51 p.m.

Sen. Miller (49th) seconded the motion and the amendment passed unanimously.

Sen. Henson (41st) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Cowser (46th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 425 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3627ERS

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, returned at 2:55 p.m.

SB 426 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3620S) "Broadband Infrastructure Leads to Development (BILD) Act"

Sen. Hill (4th) left 3:05 p.m.

Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) arrived at 3:09 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Cliff Barnette, AT&T
Mr. Kevin Curtin, AT&T
Mr. Bob Davis, Verizon
Mr. Travis Bussy, Sprint
Mr. Tony Tilly, Communication Workers of America
Mr. Stephen Loftin, Georgia Cable
Mr. Josh Waller, Georgia Department of Transportation
Ms. Kellen Carr, Wireless Infrastructure Association

Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 2:40 p.m. and returned at 2:53 p.m.

Sen. Miller (49th) left at 3:30 p.m.

Speaking against the bill:

Mr. Todd Edwards, Association of County Commissioners of Georgia

Ms. Charlotte Davis, Georgia Municipal Association

Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

SB 426 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3620S

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

March 6, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, March 6, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio (Arrived late)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53th)

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th) Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) arrived at 3:10 p.m

Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 3:11 p.m.

Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 3:12 p.m.

HB 757 (Rep. Powell, 32nd) Local government; regulatory powers of cities and counties with certificate of public necessity and convenience; provisions

Sen. Harbison (15th) Ex-Officio arrived at 3:22 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Les Schneider, Taxi and Limousine Association
Mr. Steve Belcher, Taxicab Industry

Sen. Kennedy (18th) made a motion to add an amendment on line 97 after “measurement” to add “which shall be visible at all times, displayed in full view of the passenger”.

Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Sen. Mullis (53rd) made a motion to **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Sen. Miller (49th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 757 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3642S

HB 775 (Rep. Powell, 32nd) Professions and businesses; real estate management companies; provisions

Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 3:38 p.m. and returned at 3:40 p.m.

Sen. Gooch (51st) made a motion to **Do Pass**. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Chairman Ginn (47th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 775 DO PASS LC 36 3612ERS

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES---HEARINGS ONLY**

March 8, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, March 8, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio (Arrived late)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd), Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 2.10 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that this meeting would be a “hearing only.”

Sen. Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio, arrived at 2:19 p.m.

Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 2:19 p.m.

HB 887 (Rep. Powell, 171st) Georgia Communications Services Tax Act; enact

Rep. Powell (171st) discussed his legislation.

HB 636 (Rep. Silcox, 52nd) Genetic Counselors Act; enact

Rep. Silcox (52nd) discussed her legislation.

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

March 15, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, March 15, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (Arrived late)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) Ex-Officio
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (Left early)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53th)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Sen. Jack Hill (4th), and Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m. and asked Sen. Kennedy (18th) to have a word of prayer.

HB 118 (Rep. Kelley, 16th, LC 43 0976ERS) Fantasy Contests Act; enact

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Mr. Scott Ward, Orrich Law Firm

Speaking against the bill:

Mr. Cory Lawrence, Citizen Impact
Mr. Dave Baker, Faith & Freedom Coalition of Georgia
Ms. Tanya Ditty, Concerned Women for America
Pastor Mike Griffin, Georgia Baptist Association

Sen. Mullis (53rd) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 118 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 43 0976ERS

HB 636 (Rep. Silcox, 52nd) Genetic Counselors Act; enact

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that there had been testimony and discussion at the previous meeting and he asked for a motion. (Audit report attached).

Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, made a motion **Do Pass**. Sen. Harbison (15th) Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Chairman Ginn (47th) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 636 DO PASS HB 636/CSFA

Sen. Gooch (51st) arrived at 2:27 p.m.

HB 887 (Rep. Powell, 171st, LC 36 3670S) Georgia Communications Services Tax Act; enact

Sen. Henson (41st) left at 2:55 p.m.

Sen. Gooch (51st) explained the bill for Rep. Powell (171st) and went over the changes. The Committee members had several questions and after some discussion Chairman Ginn (47th) asked for a motion.

Sen. Miller (49th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Lucas, Sr. (26th) seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Sen. Gooch (51st) will be the Senate sponsor.

HB 887 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3670S

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS
270 Washington St., S.W., Suite 1-156
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Greg S. Griffin
STATE AUDITOR
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March 16, 2018

Honorable Frank Ginn
Chairman, Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities
121-I State Capitol
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: Fiscal Note
House Bill 636 (CSFA)

Dear Chairman Ginn:

The bill would provide for the licensure of genetic counselors, authorizing the Georgia Composite Medical Board to issue, suspend, deny, and renew licenses. It defines genetic counselors, determines requirements for licensure, and provides details on renewing the license. The bill would not apply to companies providing services directly to consumers without seeing a physician or genetic counselor or to companies using genetic data for nutritional counseling.

Regulating the licensure of genetic counselors would require state funding of \$53,800 to \$64,200 per year. The estimated cost includes an initial IT cost of \$13,000 to add this profession to the Board's existing system, as well as \$64,800 in salary and benefits for an additional staff member to manage the profession. The Board would generate revenue to offset part of the cost through initial application fees (assumed at \$300) and renewal fees (assumed at \$150). According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, there are an estimated 80 genetic counselors in Georgia, and this number is expected to grow 2.6 percent annually.

Table 1. Estimated Licensure Revenues and Costs

	<u>Year 1</u>	<u>Year 2</u>	<u>Year 3</u>
Revenue			
Application Fees	\$24,000	\$600	\$600
Renewal Fees	\$0	\$0	\$12,000
Total Revenue	\$24,000	\$600	\$12,600
Expenditures			
IT Costs	\$13,000	\$0	\$0
Personnel (1 FTE)	\$64,800	\$64,800	\$64,800
Total Expenditures	\$77,800	\$64,800	\$64,800
Additional State Costs	\$53,800	\$64,200	\$52,200

Sincerely,

Greg S. Griffin
State Auditor

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON REGULATED INDUSTRIES
AND UTILITIES**

March 20, 2018

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, March 20, 2018 in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Senators were in attendance:

Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Arrived late)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th) (Arrived late)
Sen. David Lucas, Sr. (26th)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th) (Arrived late)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53th)
Sen. Renee Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Josh McKoon (29th), Secretary, Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Sen. Steve Henson (41st), Sen. David Shafer (48th), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Ginn (47th) called the meeting to order at 3:10 p.m. and asked Sen. Albers (56th) to have a word of prayer.

SR 1019 (Chairman Ginn, 47th, LC 36 3678S) Senate Advanced Communications Technologies and Use of State and Local Government Right of Way Policy Modernization Study Committee; create

Sen. Kennedy (18th) arrived at 3:11 p.m.

Sen. Miller (49th) arrived at 3:11 p.m.

Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 3:12 p.m.

Speaking in favor of the bill:

Ms. Catherine Fleming, Charter Communications

Chairman Ginn (47th) said that on page 2, line 28 “four” should be changed to “five” and also that Shawn Marie Story from Legislative Counsel explained to him that some wording was left off the top of the substitute. It needed to read “offers the following substitute to SR 1019.”

Chairman Ginn (47th) asked for a motion to makes these changes. Sen. Albers (56th) made a motion to amend the resolution with these changes and Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Sen. Albers (56th) made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Unterman (45th), Ex-Officio, seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

SR 1019 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE LC 36 3678S

Chairman Ginn (47th) adjourned the meeting at 3:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Chairman

/s/ Betty Conner, Recording Secretary