

Senate Committee on Ethics – 2018 Members

Sen. Dean Burke, Chairman

District 11
1906 Legette Drive
Bainbridge, GA 39819
404-656-0040
301-A Coverdell Legislative Office
Building

Sen. William Ligon, Jr., Vice-Chairman

District 3
158 Scranton Connector
Brunswick, GA 31525
404-463-1383
121-E State Capitol

Sen. Gloria S. Butler, Secretary

District 55
6241 Southland Trace
Stone Mountain, GA 30087
404-656-0075
420-C State Capitol

Sen. Ed Harbison

District 15
P.O. Box 1292
Columbus, GA 31902
404-656-0074
431 State Capitol

Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick, Ex-Officio

District 32
304-A Coverdell Legislative Office
Building
404-656-3932

Sen. Joshua McKoon

District 29
P.O. Box 2565
Columbus, GA 31902
404-463-3931
319-A Coverdell Legislative Office Bldg

Sen. Butch Miller

District 49
2420 Browns Bridge Road
Gainesville, GA 30504
404-656-6578
321 State Capitol

Sen. Jesse Stone

District 23
827 N. Liberty Street
Waynesboro, GA 30830
404-463-1314
325-A Coverdell Legislative Office
Building

Sen. Brian Strickland

District 17
P.O. Box 1895
McDonough, GA 30253
404-656-7454
113 State Capitol

Sen. Curt Thompson

District 5
6320 Glenbrook Drive
Tucker, GA 30084
404-463-1318
121-H State Capitol

Sen. Ben Watson

District 1
1326 Eisenhower Drive #2
Savannah, GA 31406
404-656-7880
320-B Coverdell Legislative Office
Building

Sen. Michael Williams

District 27

3482 Keith Bridge Rd., Ste. 310

Cumming, GA 30041

404-656-7127

324-A Coverdell Legislative Office
Building

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
Thursday, February 8, 2018

The Senate Committee on Ethics held its first meeting of the 2018 Legislative Session on Thursday, February 8, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman
Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)
Sen. Curt Thompson (5th) (Arrived Late)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

NOTE: Sen. Butch Miller (49th) and Sen. Michael Williams (27th) were absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

[SB 107](#) (Sen. Millar, 40th, LC 28 8633S) Ethics in Government; filing campaign financial disclosure reports; additional date prior to general primary; revise the dates

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. Fran Millar (40th) to speak to the substitute for **SB 107 (LC 28 8633S)**.

Sen. Thompson (5th) arrived at 3:08 p.m. in time for the vote.

Sen. McKoon (29th) moved **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8633S)**. Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 8-0.

SB 107 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8633S)

[SB 309](#) (Sen. McKoon, 29th, LC 28 8607S) Elections; time for opening and closing of the polls; provide

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. McKoon (29th) to speak to the substitute for **SB 309 (LC 28 8607S)**. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Burke (11th) called upon those who signed up to speak to the bill.

Speaking for the bill were:

Brant Frost, Georgia Republican Assembly

Richard Barron, Fulton County Director of Registration & Elections

Speaking against the bill were:
Megan Middleton, City of Atlanta
Aisha Yaqoob, Asian American Advocacy Justice Atlanta
Chris Bruce, ACLU of Georgia

This bill was a **hearing-only** bill.

At 3:31 p.m. Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) left the room.

SB 363 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 28 8644) Elections and Primaries; time for opening and closing of the polls; provide

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. Matt Brass (28th) to speak to **SB 363 (LC 28 8644)**. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Burke (11th) called upon those who signed up to speak to the bill.

Speaking for the bill was:
Richard Barron, Fulton County Director of Registration & Elections

Speaking against the bill were:
Megan Middleton, City of Atlanta
Chris Bruce, ACLU of Georgia

This bill was a **hearing-only** bill.

At 3:48 p.m. Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) returned to the room.

Having no further business, Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary

/s/ Diana Hauser, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
Thursday, February 15, 2018

The Senate Committee on Ethics held its second meeting of the 2018 Legislative Session on Thursday, February 15, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary (Arrived Late)
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) (Arrived Late)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) (Arrived Late)
Sen. Michael Williams (27th)

NOTE: Sen. William T. Ligon, Jr. (3rd), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. Curt Thompson (5th) were absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Sen. Butler (55th) arrived at 8:15 a.m., Sen. Strickland (17th) arrived at 8:18 a.m., and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 8:20 a.m. All senators that were present arrived in time for the vote.

[SB 403](#) (Sen. Thompson, 14th, LC 28 8712) Primaries and Elections; uniform election equipment in this state; provide

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th) to speak to **SB 403 (LC 28 8712)**. A brief discussion followed.

SB 403 (LC 28 8712) was a **hearing-only** bill.

[SB 309](#) (Sen. McKoon, 29th, LC 28 8750S) Elections; time for opening and closing of the polls; provide

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. McKoon (29th) to speak to the substitute for **SB 309 (LC 28 8750S)**. In addition to explaining the bill, Sen. McKoon (29th) proposed an **amendment (AM 28 1614)** as requested by the Secretary of State's office. A brief discussion followed.

Sen. McKoon (29th) called Mr. Stuart Wilkinson of the Georgia Secretary of State's Office to speak to the amendment to the substitute.

Sen. McKoon (29th) moved **DO AMEND THE SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8750S)**. Sen. Strickland (17th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 6-0, thereby creating a new substitute (**LC 28 8756S**).

Sen. Stone (23rd) moved **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8756S)**. Sen. Williams (27th) seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-1; Sen. Butler (55th) cast the “nay” vote.

SB 309 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8756S)

SB 363 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 28 8745S) Elections and Primaries; time for opening and closing of the polls; provide

Chairman Burke (11th) called on Sen. Matt Brass (28th) to speak to the substitute for **SB 363 (LC 28 8745S)**. A brief discussion followed.

Sen. Williams (27th) moved **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8745S)**. Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of 5-1; Sen. Butler (55th) cast the “nay” vote.

SB 363 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8745S)

Having no further business, Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 8:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary

/s/ Diana Hauser, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

CASEY CAGLE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 20, 2018

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

Dear David:

In accordance with Senate Rules, the Senate Committee on Assignments hereby appoints Senator Kay Kirkpatrick to serve as a permanent Ex-Officio member of the Senate Ethics Committee. This appointment is effective immediately.

Please call on me or Taylor Schindler if you have any questions regarding this appointment. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

/s/ Casey Cagle
Lt. Governor Casey Cagle
President of the Senate

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
Thursday, February 22, 2018

The Senate Committee on Ethics held its third meeting of the 2018 Legislative Session on Thursday, February 22, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The meeting was scheduled to take place in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building (CLOB), but the Senate Committee on State and Local Government Operations was running late, so the Ethics Committee met in CLOB Room 310 instead.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman (Arrived Late)
Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary (Arrived Late)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
Sen. Curt Thompson (5th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
Sen. Michael Williams (27th)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) were absent.

All senators that were present arrived in time for the vote.

Vice-Chairman Ligon, Jr. (3rd) called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m. in lieu of Chairman Burke (11th), who was in another committee meeting.

SB 403 (Sen. Thompson, 14th, LC 28 8798S) Primaries and Elections; uniform election equipment in this state; provide

Vice-Chairman Ligon, Jr. (3rd) called on Sen. Bruce Thompson (14th) to speak to the substitute for **SB 403 (LC 28 8798S)**. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Burke (11th) arrived at 3:16 p.m. and resumed his duties as Chairman. He called upon those who signed up to speak to the bill.

Speaking for the bill were:

Lynn Bailey, Augusta Richmond County Elections Office, speaking for herself
Joseph Kirk, Bartow County Elections, speaking for himself
Garland Favorito, VoterGA
Sarah Henderson, Common Cause
John Fortuin, Defenders of Democracy

No one had signed up to speak against the bill.

Sen. Butler (55th) arrived at 3:28 p.m. She left the room at 3:46 p.m.

Sen. Williams (27th) proposed an **amendment** and moved **DO AMEND THE SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8798S)**. Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0, thereby creating a new substitute (**LC 28 8801S**).

Sen. Butler (55th) returned at 3:49 p.m.

Sen. Williams (27th) moved **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8801S)**. Sen Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 8-0.

SB 403 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8801S)

Having no further business, Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary

/s/ Diana Hauser, Recording Secretary

MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
Thursday, March 8, 2018

The Senate Committee on Ethics held its fourth meeting of the 2018 Legislative Session on Thursday, March 8, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Josh McKoon (29th)
Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) (Arrived Late)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) (Arrived Late)
Sen. Michael Williams (27th)

NOTE: Vice-Chairman William T. Ligon, Jr. (3rd), Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. Curt Thompson (5th) were absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Sen. Watson arrived at 3:02 p.m. Senator Strickland arrived at 3:03 p.m.

HB 973 (Rep. Jones, 47th, LC 28 8792S) Ethics in government; lobbyists shall acknowledge and agree to abide by sexual harassment policy of General Assembly; provisions

Chairman Burke (11th) called upon Rep. Jan Jones (47th) to speak to **HB 973 (LC 28 8792S)**. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Burke (11th) called upon Mr. Stefan Ritter, Executive Director of the Georgia Government Transparency and Campaign Finance Commission, to speak to the bill. A brief discussion followed.

Chairman Burke (11th) decided to **TABLE** the bill for further work.

HB 973 TABLED

Having no further business, Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary

/s/ Diana Hauser, Recording Secretary

**MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ETHICS
THURSDAY, MARCH 15, 2018**

The Senate Committee on Ethics held its fifth and final meeting of the 2018 Legislative Session on Thursday, March 15, 2018, at 3:00 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman
Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Joshua McKoon (29th)
Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd)
Sen. Brian Strickland (17th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)
Sen. Michael Williams (27th)

NOTE: Vice-Chairman William T. Ligon, Jr. (3rd), Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. Curt Thompson (5th) were absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

HB 973 (Rep. Jones, 47th, LC 28 8880S) Ethics in government; lobbyists shall acknowledge and agree to abide by sexual harassment policy of General Assembly; provisions

Chairman Burke reviewed the substitute to **HB 973 (LC 28 8880S)**.

Sen. Strickland (17th) moved **DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8880S)**. Sen. McKoon (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with a vote of 7-0. Sen. McKoon (29th) is the Senate sponsor.

HB 973 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 8880S)

Having no further business, Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 3:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Gloria Butler (55th), Secretary

/s/ Diana Hauser, Recording Secretary