

**The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Roster 2019**

Sen. John Wilkinson, Chairman, 50th District
P.O. Box 2227
Toccoa, GA 30577

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

Sen. Ellis Black, Secretary, 8th District
5900 Jumping Gully Road
Valdosta, GA 31601

Sen. Dean Burke, 11th District
1500 East Shotwell Street
Bainbridge, GA 39819

Sen. Tyler Harper, 7th District
P.O. Box 798
Ocilla, GA 31774

Sen. Bill Heath, 31st District
2225 Cashtown Road
Bremen, GA 30110

Sen. Zahra Karinshak, 48th District
P.O. Box 956034
Duluth, GA 30095

Sen. Sheikh Rahman, 5th District
323-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, 12th District
5377 Goose Hollow Road
Dawson, GA 31742

Sen. Larry Walker, III, 20th District
1110 Washington Street
Perry, GA 31069

Rules
Senate Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs
2019-2020

1. These Committee Rules of Operation shall be consistent with Senate Rule 2-1.5 regarding the establishment of Rules of Operation.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be five (5) members.
3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered. No motion that the Committee recommends (Do Pass, Do Not Pass, etc.) shall be in order until the Chairperson has stated that such a motion will be entertained. The Chairman shall have the authority and discretion to call a bill, resolution, substitute, or amendment for debate and explanation only.
4. The Chairman may appoint subcommittees and officers of subcommittees and shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to subcommittee for study. Such subcommittees in turn shall have the authority to make recommendations on such measures to the full Committee at such a time as shall be designated by the Chairman. All actions of the subcommittees shall be approved or disapproved by the full Committee.
5. A “Do Pass” motion that fails does not automatically give a “Do Not Pass” recommendation, nor does a “Do Not Pass” motion which fails give an affirmative recommendation. A “Do Not Pass” motion which passes is considered unfavorably reported by the Committee and may not be taken up by the full Senate.
6. The Committee shall convene, recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
7. Any members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report, in writing, with the Secretary of the Senate when the Committee report is read, pursuant to Senate Rule 2-1.6.
8. These Rules may be amended 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 the presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he 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 appeared first in the list of authors.
10. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided by the Chairman at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing.
11. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern, pursuant to Senate Rule 2-1.5.
12. No member of any Committee may abstain from voting, unless the member or a member’s immediate family has direct pecuniary interest in result of such vote, pursuant to Rule 2-4-2(f).

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, February 5, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) called the meeting to order at 4:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) made the motion to adopt the 2019-2020 Rules and Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded. Adoption of the Rules passed unanimously 6-0. The Rules appear on the preceding page.

NOTE: Sen. Karinshak (48th) arrived at 4:09 p.m.
Sen. Sims (15th) arrived at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair recognized Commissioner of Agriculture Gary Black and Director Chuck Williams of the Forestry Commission to give a presentation and share videos of hurricane damage in Southwest, Georgia.

Testimony validating hurricane destruction:

Greg Calhoun, farmer of 12,000 acres spanning 5 counties.
Robert Cohen, 14,000-acre pecan farm (largest until October 10)
Patrick Dean, Chief Credit Officer of Southwest Georgia Farm Credit

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, February 12, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Tyler Harper (7th) was appointed to the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs, as an Ex-Officio member, by the Committee on Assignments on February 11, 2019. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) called the meeting to order at 4:01p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Sims (15th) arrived at 4:04 p.m.
Sen. Burke (11th) arrived at 4:04 p.m.
Sen. Anderson (24th) arrived at 4:05 p.m.

[SB 75](#) (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 44 1046) Authorizes State Board of Veterinary Medicine (SBVM) to Conduct a Professional Health Program to Provide Monitoring and Rehabilitation of Impaired Veterinarians.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ellis Black (8th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Black (8th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Black (8th) offered an amendment to insert “on behalf of” in line 22. Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the amendment.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), and Sen. Heath (31st) voted in favor of the amendment. All were in favor of the amendment. The amendment passed 9-0.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Sam Teasley, external affairs director in the Secretary of State's office.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **SB 75 Do Pass (LC 44 1046)**. Sen. Anderson (24) seconded the motion.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), and Sen Heath (31st) voted in favor of the bill. The bill passed unanimously 9-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 75 DO PASS (LC 44 1046)

SB 76 (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 44 1152S) Replaces “Veterinary Technician” with “Veterinary Nurse”; and adds a seventh member to the State Board of Veterinary Medicine (SBVM).

The Chair recognized Sen. Black (8th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Black (8th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Black (8th) who made a motion to insert “registered” in line 9. Sen. Black (8th) made a motion **do pass** the amendment.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), and Sen. Heath (31st) voted in favor of the amendment. All voted in favor of the amendment 9-0.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (24th), who made a motion that **SB 76 Do Pass (LC 44 1152S)**. Sen. Harper (7th) seconded the motion.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), and Sen. Heath (31st) voted in favor of the bill. The bill passed unanimously 9-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 76 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 44 1152S)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 4:22p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary



OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 11, 2019

The Honorable Tyler Harper
301-B CLOB
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Dear Senator Harper,

In agreement with the Committee on Assignments, I hereby appoint you to the following committee:

1. Agriculture, Ex-Officio

Congratulations on your committee assignment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Duncan".

Geoff Duncan
Lieutenant Governor of Georgia

cc: Secretary of the Senate
Legislative Fiscal Office

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) called the meeting to order at 4:24 p.m.

NOTE:

Sen. Sims (15th) arrived at 4:27 p.m.
Sen. Heath (31st) arrived at 4:29 p.m.
Sen. Harper (7th) arrived at 4:30 p.m.
Sen. Karinshak (48th) arrived at 4:33 p.m.

The Chair recognized Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue via video conference for the purpose of providing federal update pertinent to hurricane destruction in Southwest Georgia.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and questions.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, February 26, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th) was absent.

NOTE:

Sen. Karinshak (48th) arrived at 5:09 p.m.
Sen. Heath (31st) arrived at 5:10 p.m.
Sen. Burke (11th) arrived at 5:14 p.m.
Sen. Harper (7th) arrived at 5:23 p.m.

[SB 97](#) (Sen. Stone, 23rd, LC 41 1784) Authorizes self-service storage facilities to charge late payment fee associated with late rent; authorizes liens on personal property for late payment fees; and clarifies definitions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jesse Stone (23rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Stone (23rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Scott Zucker, Weissmann Zucker Euster Morochnik & Garber P.C; Attorney

The Chair opened the floor for debate and questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (24th) who made a motion that **SB 97 Do Pass (LC 41 1784)**. Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4-0. Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Rahman (5th), and Sen. Walker (20th), voted in favor of the bill.

Committee Recommendation: SB 97 DO PASS (LC 41 1784)

Recommitted [SB 76](#) (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 44 1152S) Replaces “Veterinary Technician” with “Veterinary Nurse”; and adds a seventh member to the State Board of Veterinary Medicine (SBVM).

The Chair recognized Sen. Ellis Black (8th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Black (8th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor to the bill:

Keri Reddick, Georgia Veterinary Medical Association

Anna Santos, GVTAA state board (Veterinary Technician State Representative)

Testimony in opposition to the bill:

Matt Caseman and Wendi Clifton, Georgia Nurses Association

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion to scratch language changing “veterinary technician” to “veterinary nurse.” The motion died for lack of a second.

The Chair recognized Sen. Black (8th) who made a motion that **SB 76 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 44 1152S)**. Sen. Karinshak (48th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Walker (20th), and Sen. Harper (7th) voted in favor of the bill.

Sen. Heath (31st) voted against the bill.

Committee Recommendation: SB 76 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 44 1152S)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 5:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Friday, March 1, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Friday, March 1, 2019 upon adjournment in Room 310 of the CLOB. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

NOTE: Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th) was absent.
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary, was absent.
Sen. Dean Burke (11th) was absent.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) called the meeting to order at 12:50 p.m.

SB 211 (Sen. Harper, 7th, LC 44 1173) Prevents the representation of food as meat if less than 90% is from a live animal, or if it is animal tissue from in vitro animal cells.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tyler Harper (7th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Harper (7th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the bill:
Bo Warren, Department of Agriculture

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **SB 211 Do Pass (LC 44 1173)**. Sen. Karinshak (48th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), and Sen. Heath (31st) voted in favor of the bill.

Committee Recommendation: SB 211 DO PASS (LC 44 1173)

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Friday, March 12, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

[HB 512](#) (Rep. Sam Watson, 172nd, LC 44 1154ER) Relating to agricultural commodities promotion, so as to provide for an Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane; or violations of marketing orders; to provide for civil penalties and injunctive relief; to authorize promulgation of regulations; to provide for related matters.

The Chair stated that HB 512 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Sam Watson (172nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Watson (172nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

Committee Recommendation: HB 512 (LC 44 1154ER) No action was taken.

[HB 455](#) (Rep. Penny Houston (170th), LC 34 5536S) Relating to agriculture, so as to create the Georgia Agricultural Marketing Authority; to provide for the liberal construction; to amend Chapter 15 of Title 45 of the O.C.G.A., relating to the Attorney General, so as to provide for the inclusion of the Georgia Agricultural Marketing Authority as a state authority; to provide for related matters.

The Chair stated that HB 455 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Penny Houston (170th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Houston (170th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Committee Recommendation: HB 455 (LC 34 5536S) No action was taken.

HB 545 (Rep. Tom McCall, (33rd), HB 545/CSFA) Relating to treatment of agricultural facilities and operations and forest land as nuisances, so as to provide for legislative intent; to remove a definition; to limit the circumstances under which agricultural facilities and operations may be sued for a nuisance; to provide for related matters.

The Chair stated that HB 545 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Tom McCall (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. McCall (33rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor to the Bill:

Alex Bradford, Georgia Farm Bureau
Will Bentley, Georgia Agribusiness Council
Bryan Tolar, Georgia Urban Agriculture Council
Tom Beyer, Georgia Forestry Association
Mike Giles, Georgia Poultry Federation

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

April Lipscomb, Southern Environmental Law Council
Marc Woodlaw, Sierra Club
Dianna Wedincamp, Landowner
Kevin Jesenmik, General Council Chattahoochee River Keeper
Mike Lisenby, Landowner
Chavon Newmon, Voter in Emmanuel County

Committee Recommendation: HB 545 (HB 545/CSFA) No action was taken.

HB 213 (Rep. John Corbett, 174th, LC 44 1131S) Authorizes growing and processing of hemp in Georgia; Provides for licensing requirements; Provides for testing and destruction of crops; Requires state plan be submitted to United States Department of Agriculture; Removes hemp from definitions in the criminal code.

The Chair stated that HB 213 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. John Corbett (174th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Corbett (174th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor to the bill:

Allen Moore, Associate Dean of Research, UGA College of Agriculture
Jonathan Miller, General Counsel—US Hemp Roundtable
Aviva, Georgia Hemp Economic Revival Organization
Phil Jennings, CEO—Village Fields Hemp
Ted Metz, LP of GA Chair
Michael “Coach” Harris, Green Rush Team
Fred Swann, Former Agriculture Commissioner Candidate
Veronica Taylor, Billow CBD Store
J’lyn Furby, American Kinetics

Testimony in opposition to the bill:

Pricilla Smith, citizen
Ashland Kayne, Your CBD Store
Jeff Yaburi, Your CBD Store

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 213 (LC 44 1131S) No action was taken.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Dean Burke (11th)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th)
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th)

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

[HB 512](#) (Rep. Sam Watson, 172nd, LC 44 1229ERS) Relating to agricultural commodities promotion, so as to provide for an Agricultural Commodity Commission for Propane; for violations of marketing orders; to provide for civil penalties and injunctive relief; to authorize promulgation of regulations; to provide for related matters.

The Chair recognized Rep. Sam Watson (172nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Watson (172nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Black (8th) who made a motion that **HB 512 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 44 1229ERS)**. Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th), Sen. Walker (20th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Burke (11th), and Sen. Black (8th) voted in favor of the bill.

Sen. Walker (20th) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

Committee Recommendation: HB 512 (LC 44 1229ERS) DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

[HB 545](#) (Rep. Tom McCall, 33rd, LC 44 1252S) relating to treatment of agricultural facilities and operations and forest land as nuisances, so as to provide for legislative intent; to remove a definition; to limit the circumstances under which agricultural facilities and operations may be sued for a nuisance; to provide for related matters.

The Chair recognized Rep. Tom McCall (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. McCall (33rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair called upon Troutman Sanders lawyer representing the Georgia Poultry Federation, Buck Dixon, to clarify questions.

Sen. Karinshak (48th) offered an amendment, AM 44 0110. The amendment aligns with the original bill (HB545/CSFA), but not the substitute in discussion (LC 44 1252S). The Committee took a 15-minute recess to allow Legislative Counsel time to make adjustments. Sen. Rahman (5th) seconded the amendment.

Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th) and Sen. Walker (20th) voted in favor of the amendment. Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Anderson (24th) and Sen. Black (8th) voted in opposition to the amendment. The amendment failed 5-4.

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **HB 545 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 44 1252S)**. Sen. Anderson (24th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-3.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Burke (11th), and Sen. Black (8th) voted in favor of the bill.

Sen. Walker (20th), Sen. Karinshak (48th) and Sen. Rahman (5th) voted against the bill.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

Committee Recommendation: HB 545 (LC 44 1252S) DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

HB 455 (Rep. Penny Houston, 130th, LC 34 5536S) Relating to agriculture, so as to create the Georgia Agricultural Marketing Authority; to provide for the liberal construction; to amend Chapter 15 of Title 45 of the O.C.G.A., relating to the Attorney General, so as to provide for the inclusion of the Georgia Agricultural Marketing Authority as a state authority; to provide for related matters.

The Chair recognized Rep. Penny Houston (130th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Houston (130th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

Sen. Walker (20th) made a motion to table the bill. The bill died for lack of a second.

Committee Recommendation: HB 455 (LC 34 5536S) No action was taken.

HB 213 (Rep. John Corbett, 174th, LC 44 1250S) Authorizes growing and processing of hemp in Georgia; Provides for licensing requirements; Provides for testing and destruction of crops; Requires state plan be submitted to United States Department of Agriculture; Removes hemp from definitions in the criminal code.

The Chair recognized Rep. John Corbett (174th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Corbett (174th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harper (7th) who made a motion that **HB 213 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 44 1252S)**. Sen. Sims (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Walker (20th), Sen. Karinshak (48th) and Sen. Rahman (5th) voted in favor of the bill.

Sen. Heath (31st) voted against the bill.

Sen. Harper (7th) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

Committee Recommendation: HB 213 (LC 44 1252S) DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

HB 332 (Rep. Steven Meeks, 178th, LC 44 1180S) Relating to agricultural commodity commissions generally, so as to revise provisions relating to service of the Commissioner of Agriculture and the president of the Georgia Farm Bureau Federation as ex officio members; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws.

The Chair recognized Rep. Steven Meeks (178th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Meeks (178th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Burke (11th) who made a motion that **HB 332 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 44 1180S)**. Sen. Harper (7th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Harper (7th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Burke (11th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Walker (20th), Sen. Karinshak (48th) and Sen. Rahman (5th) and Sen Heath (31st) voted in favor of the bill.

Sen. Harper (7th) sponsored the bill in the Senate.

Committee Recommendation: HB 332 (LC 44 1180S) DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs
Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture & Consumer Affairs met on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 4:06 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)
Sen. Sheik Rahman (5th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (15th)

NOTE: Sen. Dean Burke (11th) was absent.
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Ex-Officio, was absent.
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th) was absent.

The Chair called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

The Chairman presented two options: reappoint Harry Thompson to the Equine Commodity Commission, or elect someone new to the position.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (24th) who made a motion that Harry Thompson be reappointed. Sen. Sims (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-0.

Sen. Anderson (24th), Sen. Sims (15th), Sen. Black (8th), Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Rahman (5th) and Sen Heath (31st) voted in favor of the reappointment.

Chairman Wilkinson (50th) adjourned the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs
Friday, September 27, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs held a meeting on Friday, September 27, 2019 at 9:30a.m. in the Miller Murphy Howard Building of the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agricenter. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), Chairman
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Secretary
Sen. Larry Walker (20th)
Sen. Lee Anderson (24th)

NOTE: Sen. Bill Heath, 31st, Ex-Officio, Sen. Greg Kirk, 13th, Sen. Dean Burke, 11th, Sen. Sheikh Rahman, 5th, Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, 12th, and Sen. Zahra Karinshak, 48th were absent

Chairman Wilkinson convened the meeting at 9:43a.m.

Three names were mentioned as candidates for the Propane Commodity Commission:

1. Pete Cates of Waynesboro, owner of TruFlame Gas; in the industry for 10 years.
2. Mark Holloway of Albany, owner of Modern Gas Company; in the industry for 29 years.
3. Gerry Misel of Sandy Springs, owner of Georgia Gas Distributors; in the industry for 51 years.

Sen. Walker made a motion to elect Pete Cates, Mark Holloway, and Gerry Misel to the Propane Commodity Commission. Sen. Anderson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 9:45a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Ellis Black, 8th, Secretary

/s/ Taylor Hartshorn, Recording Secretary