



The State Senate

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

Dear Secretary Cook,

I return herewith to the Office of the Secretary of the Senate, the following bills which were not acted upon in the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities during the 2019 Legislative Session:

House Bills:

HB 208 – (McCall, 33rd) Local government; contracts for utility services; change the terms
HB 337 – (Blackmon, 146th) Georgia Peer-to-Peer Car-Sharing Program Act; enact

Senate Bills:

SB 61 – (Albers, 56th) Health Planning and Development; integrated surgery centers from certificate of need requirements; exempt
SB 74 – (Brass, 28th) Health; certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services; eliminate
SB 112 – (Tippins, 37th) Public Service Commission; recovery of certain financing costs of the construction of nuclear generation plants from public schools; prohibit
SB 114 – (Burke, 11th) Health; certificate of need requirements; provisions; revise; Health Strategies Council; establish
SB 152 – (Albers, 56th) Alcoholic Beverages; certain limitations upon manufacturers; change
SB 198 – (Unterman, 45th) Alcoholic Beverages; manufacture, distribution, transportation, or sale of ice cream or frozen dessert made with alcoholic beverages; without an alcoholic beverage license or permit; authorize
SB 205 – (Gooch, 51st) Alcoholic Beverages; issuance of the call and the setting of dates for elections relating to the question of Sunday sales during certain hours; provisions; change

Senate Resolutions:

SR 184 – (Beach, 21st) General Assembly; local authorization of a limited number of licensed destination resort facilities casino resorts within the state; authorize to provide – CA
SR 454 – (Payne, 54th) Georgia's Congressional Delegation and United States Congress; authorize the study of medical marijuana in Georgia; urge

Sincerely,

Samantha Nix
Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities

**SENATE REGULATED INDUSTRIES & UTILITIES COMMITTEE
2019 MEMBERS**

Senator Bill Cowsert, Chairman

District 46
P.O. Box 512
Athens, GA 30603

Senator Matt Brass, Vice-Chairman

District 28
P.O. Box 1313
Newnan, GA 30264

Senator John F. Kennedy, Secretary

District 18
231 Riverside Drive
Macon, GA 31201

Senator Ed Harbison, Ex-Officio

District 15
P.O. Box 1292
Columbus, GA 31902

Senator P.K. Martin, Ex-Officio

District 9
455 Pine Forest Drive
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Senator Lindsey Tippins, Ex-Officio

District 37
139 Midway Road
Marietta, GA 30064

Senator John Albers

District 56
3330 Preston Ridge Road, Suite 380
Alpharetta, GA 30005

Senator Frank Ginn

District 47
P.O. Box 1136
Danielsville, GA 30633

Senator Steve Gooch

District 51
P.O. Box 600
Dahlonega, GA 30533

Senator Steve Henson

District 41
5404 Pheasant Run
Stone Mountain, GA 30087

Senator Jack Hill

District 4
P.O. Box 486
Reidsville, GA 30453

Senator David Lucas

District 26
2594 Saratoga Drive
Macon, GA 31211

Senator Butch Miller

District 49
2420 Browns Bridge Road
Gainesville, GA 30504

Senator Jeff Mullis

District 53
212 English Avenue
Chickamauga, GA 30707

**RULES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
REGULATED INDUSTRIES AND UTILITIES
2019-2020**

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be six (6) members.
2. The Chair shall determine which bills, resolutions, substitutes or amendments are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chair shall appoint Subcommittees as needed with their appropriate Subcommittee chairs. 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 at such times as shall be designated by the Chairman.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, put all questions, and adjourn upon the order of the Chair.
5. The Chairman shall have the authority to schedule, manage, and regulate the debate on bills, resolutions, substitutes and amendments, and may in his discretion recognize motions related to such measures and the order in which they are recognized.
6. 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.
7. Substitutes and amendments shall be provided to the Chairman in writing at least twenty-four (24) hours prior to the hearing. The Chairman reserves the right to delay or decline action on any substitute or amendment not provided in advance.
8. 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.
9. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate, as adopted, shall govern.
10. These Rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries & Utilities
Wednesday, February 6, 2019

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary
Sen. John Albers (56th)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. Steve Henson (41st), Sen. David Lucas (26th), and Sen. Butch Miller (49th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) presented the 2019-2020 Rules of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers (56th) who made a motion that the committee adopt the 2019-2020 Rules of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

[SB 17](#) (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3715) “Public Utilities and Public Transportation; authorize telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates; provide broadband services”

The Chair stated SB 17 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) 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:

Adam Wise, Georgia Telecommunications Association

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 1:12pm

Committee Recommendation: SB 17 (LC 36 3715) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 1:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, February 12, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman (*left early*)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*left early*)
Sen. Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (*left early*)
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)

NOTE: Sen. Jack Hill (4th) was absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

SB 17 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3819S) Public Utilities and Public Transportation; authorize telephone cooperatives and their broadband affiliates; provide broadband services

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. David Lucas (26th) arrived late at 2:08 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) arrived late at 2:09 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **SB 17 Do Pass (LC 36 3819S)**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 17 DO PASS (LC 36 3819S)

SB 2 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3714) Public Utilities and Public Transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates; authorize; broadband services; provide

The Chair stated that SB 2 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 2:35 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbison (15th), and Sen. Tippins (37th) left at 3:04 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) left at 3:06 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Jason Bragg of Georgia EMC

NOTE: Sen. Brass (28th) left at 3:33 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 2 No Action Was Taken

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, February 19, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 19, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th)
Sen. Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*left early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*left early*)
Sen. David Lucas (26th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 2:09 p.m.

[SB 2](#) (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3714) Public Utilities and Public Transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates; authorize; broadband services; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 2:11 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Miller (49th) arrived at 2:13 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kennedy (18th) who offered amendment (**AM 36 0694**) and moved its adoption. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 11-2.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Ginn(47th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Miller (49th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Brass (28th) and Sen. Gooch (51st) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) who offered amendment (**AM 36 0679**) and moved its adoption. Sen. Henson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis (53rd) who offered the amendment (**AM 36 0693**) and moved its adoption. Sen. Kennedy (18th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-5.

Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Miller (49th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Hill (4th), and Sen. Martin (9th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Henson (41st) who offered the amendment (**AM 36 0695**) and moved for its adoption. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 3-8.

Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Martin (9th), and Sen. Miller (49th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) who offered the amendment (**AM 36 0674**) and moved for its adoption. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote 11-2.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Miller (9th), and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Kennedy (18th) and Sen. Mullis (53rd) voted against the motion.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendments be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **SB 2 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Kennedy (18th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 12-1.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Miller (49th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Mullis (53rd) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 2 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 3843S)

SB 61 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 33 7611) Health Planning and Development; integrated surgery centers from certificate of need requirements; exempt

NOTE: Sen. Miller (49th) left at 3:06 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) left at 3:07 p.m.

The Chair stated that SB 61 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers (56th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Albers (56th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 3:09 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 3:11 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Gina Lee from Legacy Sports Institute

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Kathy Polvino from Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals

Ethan James from the Georgia Hospital Association

Elmer Stancil from Dentons on behalf of Northside Hospital

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) left at 3:22 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 3:23 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 3:24 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 3:32 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) returned at 3:34 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left at 3:41 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 61 (LC 33 7611) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 3:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Thursday, February 21, 2019

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, February 21, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*left early*)
Sen. Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*left early*)
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) and Sen. Tippins (37th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 4:07 p.m.

[SB 74](#) (Brass, 28th, LC 33 7654) Health; certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services; eliminate

The Chair stated that SB 74 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Brass (28th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) arrived at 4:12 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Brian Louby from Independent Doctors of Georgia
Tony West from Americans for Prosperity
John Evans from Central GA Heart Center
Ray Williams from Cancer Treatment Centers of America
Pam Alford who is a cancer patient from Eatonton, Georgia
Julie Windom from Navicent Health
Gina Lee from Legacy Sports Institute
Kathy Polvino from Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Robert Highsmith from Holland and Knight

Chris Dorman from Georgia Alliance of Community Hospitals

Ethan James from Georgia Hospital Association

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 4:23 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 4:23 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) arrived at 4:24 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 4:26 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 74 (LC 33 7654) No action was taken.

SB 114 (Sen. Burke, 11th, LC 33 7699) Health; certificate of need requirements; provisions; revise; Health Strategies Council; establish

The Chair stated that SB 114 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Dean Burke (11th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burke (11th) presented the bill to the committee.

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Ethan James from Georgia Hospital Association

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Gina Lee from Legacy Sports Institute

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) left at 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) returned at 4:40 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 5:09 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 5:17 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left at 5:22 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) returned at 5:26 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 114 (LC 33 7699) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 5:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, February 26, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*left early*)
Sen. Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*left early*)
Sen. David Lucas (26th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*) (*left early*)

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 3:14 p.m.

SB 100 (Martin, 9th, LC 36 3816) Telephone System for the Physically Impaired; state-wide dual party relay service and audible universal information access service; provisions; change

The Chair recognized Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Martin (9th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Henson (41st) who made a motion **SB 100 Do Pass (LC 36 3816)**. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 100 DO PASS (LC 36 3816)

SB 146 (Sen. Ginn, 47th, LC 36 3836) Alcoholic Beverages; retail package liquor stores conduct tasting events; samples of alcoholic beverages may be served; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Ginn (47th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) arrived at 3:21 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Elizabeth Miller from the Wine Institute

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) left at 3:23 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers (56th) who made a motion **SB 146 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-4.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Lucas (26th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Miller (49th), and Sen. Mullis (53rd) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 146 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 3907S)

NOTE: Sen. Tippins (37th) arrived at 3:26 p.m.

SB 153 (Sen. Harper, 7th, LC 28 9014) Trauma Scene Cleanup Services; comprehensive regulation; provide

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:

Les Schneider on behalf of Bio PTO

The Chair recognized Sen. Kennedy (18th) who made a motion to amend the bill by replacing on line 105 the word “location” with “trauma scene” and strike lines 80-83 of the bill. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendments be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis (53rd) who made a motion **SB 153 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 153 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 3912S)

SB 74 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 33 7654) Health; certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services; eliminate

The Chair stated that SB 74 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Brass (28th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Tippins left at 3:51 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 3:59 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 4:04 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left at 4:11 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) arrived at 4:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left 4:12 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Jeff Fustle from Anthem- Blue Cross Blue Shield

Committee Recommendation: SB 74 No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 4:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Thursday, February 28, 2019

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, February 28, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. David Lucas (26th) was absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

SB 95 (Sen. Robertson, 29th, LC 45 0206) Local Government; terms for contracts for utility services; change

The Chair recognized Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Robertson (29th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) and Sen. Gooch (51st) arrived at 3:11 p.m.

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

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left at 3:16 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) arrived at 3:19 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Miller (49th) left at 3:23 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 3:25 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 3:25 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) returned at 3:26 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 3:28 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Miller (49th) returned at 3:28 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Patrick Bowie from the City of LaGrange, Georgia

Frank Crane from the Municipal Electric Authority of Georgia (MEAG Power)

Allie Kelly from the Ray

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers (56th) who made a motion to amend lines 9, 14, and 19 of the bill. Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 10-1.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Henson (41st), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Miller (49th), Sen. Mullis (53rd), and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Martin (9th) voted against the motion.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendment(s) be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) who made a motion **SB 95 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 95 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 36 3938S)

SB 112 (Sen. Tippins, 37th, LC 36 3793) Public Service Commission; recovery of certain financing costs of the construction of nuclear generation plants from public schools; prohibit

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins (37th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Tippins (37th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Martin left at 3:34 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Liz Coyle from Georgia Watch

Josh Stephens from the Professional Association of Georgia Educators

Testimony in opposition of the Bill:

Jaime Hockin from Georgia Power

NOTE: Sen. Martin returned at 3:36 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch left at 3:51 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins (37th) who made a motion **SB 146 Do Pass**. The motion failed, due to a lack of a second.

Committee Recommendation: SB 112 (LC 36 3793) No action was taken.

SB 122 (Sen. Kennedy, 18th, LC 36 3807ER) **Motor Vehicle Franchise Practices; protection of certain consumer data in motor vehicle sales or lease transactions; provide**

NOTE: Sen. Ginn left at 3:56 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kennedy (18th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Kennedy (18th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) returned at 3:58 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Rusty Sewell from the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis (53rd) who made a motion **SB 122 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 122 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 3930ERS)

SB 144 (Sen. Anderson, 24th, LC 36 3840) **Taxes on Tobacco Products; issuance of special event tobacco permits; authorizing off-premise sales of certain tobacco products; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Lee Anderson (24th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Anderson (24th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Miller left at 4:05 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Miller returned at 4:06 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Russell Winer, a Cigar Store Owner

The Chair recognized Sen. Henson (41st) who made a motion **SB 144 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 144 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 3935S)

SB 74 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 33 7828S) **Health; certificate of need requirements for all health care facilities except certain long-term facilities and services; eliminate**

The Chair stated that SB 74 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Brass (28th) presented the bill to the committee.

Committee Recommendation: SB 74 No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Friday, March 1, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Friday, March 1, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) (*arrived late*)
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. David Lucas (26th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th) was absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

SB 162 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 44 1084ER) Local Government; disaster mitigation improvements and broadband services infrastructure; downtown development authorities; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Brass (28th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) and Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 1:06 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Ben Taube from YGreene GA

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) who offered the amendment (**AM 44 0097ER**) and moved for its adoption. Sen. Mullis (53rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendments be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) who made a motion **SB 162 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 162 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 36 3943ERS)

SB 214 (Sen. Martin, 9th, LC 36 3917) **Barbers and Cosmetologists; the number of apprenticeship hours required; change**

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Martin (9th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:22 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Miller (49th) who made a motion **SB 214 Do Pass**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 214 Do Pass (LC 36 3917)

SB 205 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 36 3908) **Alcoholic Beverages; issuance of the call and the setting of dates for elections relating to the question of Sunday sales during certain hours; provisions; change**

The Chair stated that SB 205 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) 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:

Karen Bremer from the Georgia Restaurant Association

Rusi Patel from the Georgia Municipal Association

Committee Recommendation: SB 205 (LC 36 3908) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman (*left early*)
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*left early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. David Lucas (27th)

NOTE: Sen. Steve Henson (41st), Sen. Jack Hill (4th), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd), and Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

[HB 184](#) (Rep. Harrell, 106th, LC 36 3820ERS) Streamlining Wireless Facilities and Antennas Act; enact

The Chair recognized Rep. Brett Harrell (106th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Harrell (106th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 184 Do Pass (LC 36 3820ERS)**. Sen. Gooch (51st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) is the Senate sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 184 Do Pass (LC 36 3820ERS)

[HB 516](#) (Rep. Smith, 133rd, LC 34 5524) Professions and businesses; profession of professional structural engineer; provide

The Chair stated that HB 516 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Vance Smith (133rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (133rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 2:16 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) arrived at 2:27 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 516 (LC 34 5524) No action was taken.

HB 242 (Rep. Hawkins, 27th, LC 33 7818S) Professions and businesses; regulation of massage therapy educational programs; provide

The Chair stated that HB 242 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hawkins (27th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 2:45 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Jane Johnson from the Massage Therapy Association

Charlotte Davis from the Georgia Municipal Association

Stan Jones from Nelson Mullins

Committee Recommendation: HB 242 (LC 33 7818S) No action was taken.

HB 192 (Rep. Powell, 32, LC 36 3774ER) Professions and businesses; real estate management companies; change certain provisions

The Chair recognized Rep. Alan Powell (32nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Powell (32nd) presented the bill to the committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 192 Do Pass (LC 36 3774ER)**. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) is the Senate sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 192 Do Pass (LC 36 3774ER)

HB 253 (Rep. Hawkins, 27th, LC 36 3863S) Professions and businesses; occupational therapists; update and revise various provisions

The Chair stated that HB 253 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hawkins (27th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Brass (28th) left at 3:00 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the bill:

Tom Bauer from the Georgia Occupational Therapy Association

Committee Recommendation: HB 253 (LC 36 3863S) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Thursday, March 14, 2019

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, March 14, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary
Sen. John Albers (56th)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Butch Miller (49th)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (*arrived late*)
Sen. David Lucas (27th)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) was absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

[HB 242](#) (Rep. Hawkins, 27th, LC 33 7818S) Professions and businesses; regulation of massage therapy educational programs; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hawkins (27th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Hill arrived at 3:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis arrived at 3:15 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Charlotte Davis from the Georgia Municipal Association

Debra Nesbit from Association County Commissioners of Georgia

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) who offered amendment (**AM 36 0616**) and moved its adoption. Sen Miller (49th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) who offered amendment (**AM 36 0617**) and moved its adoption. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendments be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) who made a motion **HB 242 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 242 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 36 3981S)

HB 253 (Rep. Hawkins, 27th, LC 36 3863S) Professions and businesses; occupational therapists; update and revise various provisions

The Chair recognized Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hawkins (27th) presented the bill to the committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis (53rd) who made a motion **HB 253 Do Pass (LC 36 3863S)**. Sen. Miller (49th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 10-0. Sen. Albers (56th) and Sen. Gooch (51st) abstained from voting. Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 253 Do Pass (LC 36 3863S)

HB 337 (Rep. Blackmon, 146th, LC 36 3937ERS) Georgia Peer-to-Peer Car-Sharing Program Act; enact

The Chair stated that HB 337 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Shaw Blackmon (146th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Blackmon (146th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 3:45 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 3:47 p.m.

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

Neutral Testimony of the bill:
Emily Bagwell of Allstate

Testimony in favor on the bill:
Scott Emnis from Enterprise

Committee Recommendation: HB 337 (LC 36 3937ERS) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 4:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, March 19, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman (*arrived late*)
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*left early*)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st)
Sen. David Lucas (27th) (*left early*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Jack Hill (4th), and Sen. Butch Miller (49th) were absent.

Vice-Chairman Brass (28th) called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.

[HB 516](#) (Smith, 133rd, LC 34 5524) Professions and businesses; profession of professional structural engineer; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Vance Smith (133rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (133rd) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Chairman Cowsert (46th) arrived at 2:22 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Michael Sullivan from the American Counsel of Engineering Companies of Georgia

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Jeffery Chew, a Structural and Civil Engineer

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 2:25 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) returned at 2:29 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) who made a motion **HB 516 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of (9-0). Sen. Ginn (47th) abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest. Sen. Tyler Harper (7th) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 516 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 34 5565S)

HB 493 (Rep. Tanner, 9th, LC 36 3952S) Private Permitting Review and Inspection Act; enact

The Chair recognized Rep. Kevin Tanner (9th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Tanner (9th) and Rep. Welch (110th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 2:59 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Brass (28th) left at 3:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 3:02 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 3:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kenendy (18th) left at 3:04 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Neill Herring from the Sierra Club

Jason Alseth, a Chattahoochee Riverkeeper

Alan Toney from the Fulton County Soil and Water Conservation District

Mark Woodall from the Associated General Contractors

Ashley Jenkins from American Council of Engineering Companies

Todd Edwards from Association County Commissioners of Georgia

NOTE: Sen. Brass returned at 3:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin returned at 3:18 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis (53rd) who made a motion to strike Section III of the bill. Sen. Martin (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair indicated his preference that the adopted amendment be included in a perfected committee substitute.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 493 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Henson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 493 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 4007S)

HB 499 (Rep. Kelley, 16th, LC 36 3926S) Public utilities and public transportation; use of electric easements for broadband services; permit

The Chair recognized Rep. Trey Kelley (16th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Kelley (16th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Lucas (26th) left at 3:32 p.m.

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

Neutral Testimony on the bill:

Steve Minor from Georgia EMC

Committee Recommendation: HB 499 (LC 36 3926S) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 4:05p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Thursday, March 21, 2019

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Thursday, March 21, 2019 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*left early*)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*left early*)
Sen. David Lucas (27th) (*left early*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (*arrived late*)

NOTE: Sen. Ed Harbison (15th), Sen. Steve Gooch (51st), Sen. Butch Miller (49th), and Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

[HB 324](#) (Rep. Gravley, 67th, HB 324/CSFA) Georgia's Hope Act; enact

The Chair stated that HB 324 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Micah Gravley (67th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gravley (67th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 3:12 p.m.

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

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 3:38 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 3:43 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) arrived at 3:53 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) left at 3:54 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Lucas (27th) left at 4:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) left at 4:04 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 4:07 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) returned at 4:10 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) arrived at 4:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 4:43 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left at 5:06 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 324 (HB 324/CSFA) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 5:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Tuesday, March 26, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Tuesday, March 26, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary (*left early*)
Sen. John Albers (56th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) (*left early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Steve Henson (41st) (*left early*)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (*arrived late*) (*left early*)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio) (*left early*)

NOTE: Sen. Jack Hill (4th), Sen. David Lucas (26th), and Sen. Butch Miller (49th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 4:17 p.m.

[HB 499](#) (Rep. Kelley, 16th, LC 36 3926S) Public utilities and public transportation; use of electric easements for broadband services; permit

The Chair recognized Rep. Trey Kelley (16th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Kelley (16th) presented the bill to the committee.

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

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Jason Bragg from Georgia EMC

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 499 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Cowsert (46th) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 499 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 4017S).

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) arrived at 4:23 p.m.

[HB 76](#) (Rep. Stephens, 164th, LC 36 3814S) Alcoholic beverages; counties and municipalities may regulate alcohol licenses as to certain distances in a manner that is less but not more restrictive than those distances specified by the state; provisions

The Chair stated that HB 76 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Stephens (164th) 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:

Amy Hughes from Hughes Public Affairs

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Mike Griffin from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board

Committee Recommendation: HB 76 (LC 36 3814S) No action was taken.

HB 324 (Rep. Gravley, 67th, HB 324/CSFA) Georgia's Hope Act; enact

The Chair stated that HB 324 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Micah Gravley (67th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gravley (67th) 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:

Blaine Cloud, a parent

Sebastian Cotte, a parent

Stanley Atkins from Minorities for Medical Marijuana

Jacob Eassa from Compassionate Georgia

Joshua Littrell from Veterans for Cannabis

Jada Reese from Northside Hospital

Gregory Smith from Established Church of Georgia in Exile

Dr. Scott Perlman, a private physician

Dr. Larry Tune from Leading Age Georgia

Robert Boules, a dementia patient

Bridgett Graham from Organa Kannalytics

Oliver Prosper, a private citizen

Tianna Smith from West GA Normal Women's Alliance

Jessica Reid, a parent

JaLyn Furby from American Kinetics, LLC.

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Ellen Snelling, a resident of Florida

Dr. David Atkinson, a resident of Texas

Oz Nelson, Founder/Former CEO of United Parcel Service

Sue Rusche from National Families in Action

Mike Griffin from the Georgia Baptist Mission Board
Jane Robbins from the Heartland Institute
Suzanne Swain from Conservative Republican Women of North Atlanta
Virginia Galloway from Faith and Freedom Coalition

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 4:30 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) returned at 4:52 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Tippins (37th) left at 4:34 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Henson (41st) left at 4:56 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 5:06 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 5:08 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) returned at 5:10 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Martin (9th) left at 5:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) returned at 5:22 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) arrived at 5:41 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 5:40 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) returned at 5:46 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) left at 5:52 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Gooch (51st) left at 6:07 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) left at 6:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 6:20 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) returned at 6:29 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 6:40 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Kennedy (18th) left at 6:47 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 324 (HB 324/CSFA) No action was taken.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. John F. Kennedy (18th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities
Wednesday, March 27, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Regulated Industries and Utilities met on Wednesday, March 27, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Chairman
Sen. Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th)
Sen. Steve Gooch (51st)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*arrived late*)
Sen. David Lucas (26th)
Sen. P.K. Martin (9th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Jeff Mullis (53rd) (*arrived late*)
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (Ex-Officio)

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Kennedy (18th), Sen. Henson (41st), and Sen. Miller (49th) were absent.

Chairman Cowsert (46th) called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

HB 23 (Rep. Houston, 170th, LC 36 3775S) Public utilities and public transportation; electric membership corporations and their affiliates to provide broadband services; specifically authorize

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill to the committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 23 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) is the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 23 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 4038S).

NOTE: Sen. Mullis (53rd) arrived at 4:20 p.m.

HB 76 (Rep. Stephens, 164th, LC 36 3814S) Alcoholic beverages; counties and municipalities may regulate alcohol licenses as to certain distances in a manner that is less but not more restrictive than those distances specified by the state; provisions

The Chair recognized Rep. Stephens (164th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Ron Stephens (164th) presented the bill to the committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Martin (9th) who made a motion **HB 76 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of (7-1). Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) is the Senate Sponsor.

Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Martin (9th), Sen. Mullis (53rd) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Gooch (51st) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 76 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 4040S).

HB 324 (Rep. Gravley, 67th, HB 324/CSFA) Georgia's Hope Act; enact

The Chair recognized Rep. Micah Gravley (67th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gravley (67th) presented the bill to the committee.

NOTE: Sen. Hill arrived at 4:55 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Terry Norris from the Georgia Sheriffs Association

The Chair recognized Ginn (47th) who made a motion **HB 324 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Lucas (26th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-2. Sen. Matt Brass (28th) is the Senate Sponsor.

Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Martin (9th), and Sen. Mullis (53rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Gooch (51st) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 324 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 28 9384S).

Chairman Cowsert (46th) adjourned the meeting at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th), Secretary

/s/ Samantha Nix, Recording Secretary