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**The State Senate**  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

**COMMITTEES:**

Retirement, Chairman  
Agriculture and Consumer Affairs,  
Secretary  
Appropriations  
Education and Youth

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

**RE:** Senate Retirement Committee -2019 General Assembly Legislative Session

Dear Secretary Cook,

The Senate Retirement Committee respectfully submits the following bills left in the committee after the 2019 General Assembly Legislative Session. They include the following:

SB 248 SB 14 SB 26 SB 47 SB 129 SB 249 SB 259 SB 260 SB 262 SB 270 SB 271

Listed below are the bills that passed out of the Senate Retirement Committee for the 2019 General Assembly Legislative Session. They include the following:

SB 55 SB 73 SB 117 SB 175 SB 176  
HB 196 HB 319

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Senator Ellis Black  
Chairman Senate Retirement Committee  
Committee

Jinnie Christensen  
Legislative Assistant Senate Retirement

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT  
2019-2020 MEMBERS**

**Sen. Ellis Black, Chairman**

District 8  
5900 Jumping Gully Road  
Valdosta, GA 31601

**Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, Vice-Chairman**

District 52  
3 Orchard Spring Dr.  
Rome, GA 30165

**Sen. Tonya Anderson, Secretary**

District 43  
P.O. Box 1026  
Lithonia, GA 30058

**Sen. Gail Davenport**

District 44  
P.O. Box 1074  
Jonesboro, GA 30237

**Sen. Jack Hill, Ex-Officio**

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

**Sen. Randy Robertson**

District 29  
P.O. Box 62  
Cataula, GA 31804

**Sen. Nikema Williams**

District 39  
P.O. Box 92386  
Atlanta, GA 30314

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT  
2019 - 2020 RULES**

1. Quorum of the Committee shall be four (4) members. Every member, including ex-officio members, shall count as a voting member for purposes of establishing a quorum at any given meeting.
2. The Chairman shall determine which bills, resolutions, substitutes, or amendments are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered; the Chairman shall have the authority and discretion to call a bill, resolution, substitute, or amendment for debate and explanation only or to limit consideration of such measures.
3. The Chairman 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 times as shall be designated by the Chairman. All actions of the subcommittees shall be approved or disapproved by the standing committee.
4. 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.
5. When a bill or resolution is before the Committee for consideration, the following shall be the precedence of the motions:
  - (1) A motion that bill do pass;
  - (2) A motion that a bill do not pass;
  - (3) A motion to postpone to a time certain;
  - (4) A motion to refer a bill to subcommittee.(All motions shall receive a Second before consideration)
6. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
7. A bill or resolution will be considered only after the presentation by its principal author or other legislator whom he/she may designate unless otherwise directed by the Chairman. The principal author shall be the legislator whose name appears first on the list of authors. The Committee shall not vote on any bill until the author or his/her designee has been given the opportunity to appear and be heard.
8. The Chairman reserves the right to delay or decline action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman in writing at least 24 hours prior to the hearing in which they are presented.

9. The Chairman shall not vote unless the Committee shall be equally divided or unless his or her vote, if given in the minority, will make the division equal. In case the vote is equally divided, the Chairman must vote.
10. 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.
11. These Rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee.
12. Where these Rules are silent of a specific issue, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern. If the Rules of the Senate are silent on a specific issue, Mason's Manual of Legislative Procedure shall govern.

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement  
Wednesday, February 6, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 6, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Davenport (44th) arrived at 4:08 p.m.

Chairman Black (8th) introduced the Committee Rules. The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion to adopt the Committee Rules. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The Committee adopted the rules, which appear on the preceding page, unanimously.

**Presentation: Georgia State Retirees Association**

The presentation was completed by Jim Summerville, President of the GSRA.

**Presentation: Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia**

The presentation was completed by Dr. Buster Evans, Executive Director of TRS.

**Presentation: Employees' Retirement System of Georgia**

The presentation was completed by Jim Potvin, Executive Director of the ERS.

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement  
Wednesday, February 13, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 4:00 p.m. in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th) (*Arrived Late*)

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Davenport (44th) and Sen. Williams (39th) arrived at 4:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) arrived at 4:06 p.m.

**SB 26 (Sen. William Ligon, Jr., 3rd, LC 43 1098) Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; prior service as a member of Georgia Defined Contribution Plan; creditable service; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. William Ligon, Jr. (3rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Ligon, Jr. (3rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 26 (LC 43 1098) No action was taken.**

**SB 55 (Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, 52nd, LC 43 1132) Retirement; method and manner by which a member of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia may purchase an annuity; revise**

The Chair recognized Jim Potvin of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia for the purpose of presenting the bill. Mr. Potvin presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion **SB 55 Do Pass (LC 43 1132)**. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 55 DO PASS (LC 43 1132)**

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement  
Wednesday, February 20, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in Room 125 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Nikema Williams (39th) was absent.

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 4:03 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 4:07 p.m.

**[SB 47](#) (Sen. Michael Rhett, 33rd, LC 43 1100) Retirement Benefits; creditable service for certain military service; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Michael Rhett (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Rhett (33rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 47 (LC 43 1100) No action was taken.**

**[SB 73](#) (Sen. Tyler Harper, 7th, LC 43 1164) Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; fees collected in criminal and quasi-criminal cases prior to adjudication of guilt; 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 recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 73 Do Pass (LC 43 1164)**. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 73 DO PASS (LC 43 1164)**

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:16 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement  
Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 27, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th)

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) arrived at the meeting at 4:09 p.m.

**[SB 174](#) (Sen. Ellis Black, 8th, LC 43 1222) Retirement and Pension Systems; definition of public employment related crime; revise**

Chairman 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 of the Bill:*

Charlotte Davis of the Georgia Municipal Association

**Committee Recommendation: SB 174 (LC 43 1222) No action was taken.**

**[SB 117](#) (Sen. Ellis Black, 8th, LC 43 1193) Public Retirement Systems Standards Law; that does not require an individual to pay the full actuarial cost of obtaining such creditable service; prohibit passage of any law**

Chairman Black (8th) presented the bill.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion **SB 117 Do Pass (LC 43 1193)**. Sen. Robertson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 117 DO PASS (LC 43 1193)**

**SB 175 (Sen. Ellis Black, 8th, LC 43 1210) Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; certain public employers to make employer and employee contributions; require**

Chairman Black (8th) presented the bill. The Chair opened the floor for comments from the public. He recognized the following:

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Chuck Clay of the Georgia Education Coalition

Carol Schwinne of the Georgia Department of Audits

Dr. Buster Evans of the Teachers Retirement System

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 175 Do Pass (LC 43 1210)**. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 175 DO PASS (LC 43 1210)**

**SB 176 (Sen. Ellis Black, 8th, LC 43 1290S) Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; certain public employers; make employer and employee contribution on behalf of retired members; require**

The Chair recognized Jim Potvin of the Employees' Retirement System for the purpose of presenting the bill. Mr. Potvin presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion **SB 176 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 43 1290S)**. Sen Williams (39th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 176 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 1290S)**

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:41 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement  
Wednesday, March 13, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, March 13, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Davenport (44th) arrived at the meeting at 4:06 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Williams (39th) arrived at the meeting at 4:08 p.m.

**HB 196 (Rep. Tommy Benton, 31st, LC 43 1298ERS) Retirement and pensions; each public retirement system trustee to complete appropriate education applicable to his or her fiduciary duties; require**

The Chair recognized Rep. Tommy Benton (31st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Benton (31st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion **HB 196 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 43 1298ERS)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 196 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 1298ERS)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at the meeting at 4:11 p.m. and was not present to vote on HB 196.

**HB 319 (Rep. Noel Williams, 148th, LC 43 1162) Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; member's benefits payable after death shall be paid to his or her estate when such member failed to designate a beneficiary or his or her designated beneficiaries are deceased; provide**

The Chair recognized Rep. Noel Williams (148th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Williams (148th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **HB 319 Do Pass (LC 43 1162)**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 319 DO PASS (LC 43 1162)**

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement**  
**Monday, May 6, 2019**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Monday, May 6, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

**SENATORS PRESENT:**

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman  
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Gail Davenport (44th), and Sen. Nikema Williams (39th) were absent.

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m.

**SB 249 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 1426S) Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; amount of monthly dues paid; increase; amounts collected from fines; revise**

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio), who made a motion **SB 249 for actuarial study**. Sen. Black (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 249 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1426S)**

**SB 248 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 1348) Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; monthly dues, tax on premiums and maximum monthly benefit amount payable; increase**

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 248 for actuarial study**. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 248 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1348)**

**SB 14 (Sen. Seay, 34th, LC 28 8934) Georgia Legislative Retirement System; definitions; employee contribution; prior service credit for military service; provisions; change**

The Chair recognized Sen. Valencia Seay (34th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Seay (34<sup>th</sup>) 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:*

Jim Potvin of the Employees' Retirement System

The Chair recognized Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) who made a motion **SB 14 for actuarial study**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 14 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 28 8934)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at the meeting at 10:29 a.m. and was not present to vote on SB 249, SB 248 and SB 14.

**SB 26** (Sen. Ligon, Jr., 3rd, LC 43 1098) **Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; prior service as a member of Georgia Defined Contribution Plan; creditable service; provide**

The Chair 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:*

Jim Potvin of the Employees' Retirement System

The Chair recognized Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) who made a motion **SB 26 for actuarial study (LC 43 1098)**. Sen. Anderson (43<sup>rd</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 26 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1098)**

**SB 47** (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 43 1100) **Retirement Benefits; creditable service for certain military service; provide**

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (43rd) who made a motion **SB 47 for actuarial study (LC 43 1100)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 47 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1100)**

**SB 129** (Sen. Hufstetler, 52nd, LC 43 1209) **Regents Retirement Plan; election to participate in lieu of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia shall be revocable at will; provide**

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 129 (LC 43 1209) No action was taken.**

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) left the meeting at 10:44 a.m.

**SB 259** (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 43 1363) Georgia Legislative Retirement System; certain provisions relating to employee contributions, prior service credit for military service; change

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 259 for actuarial study (LC 43 1363)**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 259 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1363)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) arrived at the meeting at 10:56 a.m. and was not present to vote on SB 259.

**SB 260** (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 43 1361) Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; actuarial investigations for retirement system occur at least once every three years; require

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 260 for actuarial study (LC 43 1361)**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 260 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1361)**

**SB 262** (Sen. Harbison, 15th, LC 43 1422S) Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; eligibility of beneficiary to make new retirement election; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Harbison (15th) 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:*

Jim Potvin of the Employees' Retirement System

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **SB 262 for actuarial study (LC 43 1422S)**. Sen. Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 262 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1422S)**

**SB 270** (Kennedy, 18th, LC 43 1366) Retirement Benefits; appellate court judges; age of eligibility; decrease

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (43rd) who made a motion **SB 270 Do Pass for actuarial study (LC 43 1366)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 270 DO PASS FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1366)**

**SB 271** (Kennedy, 18th, LC 43 1327) Law Assistants; rename as law clerks and staff attorneys

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (43rd) who made a motion **SB 271 for actuarial study (LC 43 1327)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 271 FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1327)**

**SB 129** (Sen. Hufstetler, 52nd, LC 43 1209) Regents Retirement Plan; election to participate in lieu of the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia shall be revocable at will; provide

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 129 (LC 43 1209) No action was taken.**

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 11:23 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary

/s/ Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary