

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
2020 ROSTER**

**Sen. Tyler Harper, Chairman**

District  
P.O. Box 798  
Ocilla, GA 31774

**Sen. Bill Heath, Vice-Chairman**

District 31  
2225 Cashtown Rd.  
Bremen, GA 30110

**Sen. Matt Brass, Secretary**

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

**Sen. Frank Ginn, Ex-Officio**

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

**Sen. Gail Davenport**

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

**Sen. Marty Harbin**

District 16  
215 Greencastle Rd.  
Tyrone, GA 30290

**Sen. Sally Harrell**

District 40  
P.O. Box 941365  
Atlanta, GA 31141

**Sen. Jack Hill** *(until 4/7/2020)*

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

**Sen. Zahra Karinshak**

District 48  
P.O. Box 956034  
Duluth, GA 30095

**Sen. Freddie Powell Sims**

District 12  
5377 Goose Hollow Rd.  
Dawson, GA 31742

**Sen. Lindsey Tippins**

District 37  
139 Midway Rd.  
Marietta, GA 30064

**Sen. John Wilkinson**

District 50  
P.O. Box 2227  
Toccoa, GA 30577

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND THE ENVIRONMENT  
2020 RULES**

1. A quorum of the Committee shall be Six (6) members.
2. The Committee shall convene, recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.
3. The Chairman shall have the authority to determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered; the Chairman shall have the authority to call a bill, resolution, substitute, or amendment for debate and explanation only.
4. The Chairman 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 time as shall be designated by the Chairman.
5. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after the presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he or she designates to do so. The principal author shall be the legislator whose name appears first on the list of authors.
6. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
7. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree(s) with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report in writing, setting forth concise reasons for their dissent.
8. Any individual wishing to video a meeting may ONLY set up video equipment in an approved location by the Chairman and only in so much as it does not disrupt or distract from the meeting.
9. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two-thirds of the members of the Committee, in a meeting called by the Chairman, provided that written notice has been given to the Committee 48 hours prior to the Committee meeting.
10. The Rules of the Senate shall govern on all matters not addressed by these Committee rules.

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Tuesday, February 4, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th) (*Arrived Late*)

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass (28th) arrived at 3:11 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Wilkinson (50th) arrived at 3:12 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

**SB 123 (Sen. Ligon, 3rd, LC 45 0204) Waste Management; the coal ash surcharge imposed by host local governments; eliminate**

The Chair recognized Sen. William Ligon (3rd) to present the bill. Sen. Ligon (3rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn, (47th) who made a motion that **SB 123 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 45 0387S)** Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 123 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0387S)**

**SB 319 (Sen. Ginn, 47th, LC 45 0371) Rivers and River Basins; dam safety; building of inhabitable structures in the inundation zone of Category II; prohibit**

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) who made a motion that **SB 319 Do Pass (LC 45 0371)** Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 319 DO PASS (LC 45 0371)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Jack Hill (4th) and Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) were absent.

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 2:10 p.m.

**SB 356 (Sen. Ligon, 3rd, LC 47 0286) Solid Waste Management; expansion of certain municipal solid waste landfills to areas within two miles of military air space used as bombing ranges; allow**

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

The Chair opened up the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th), who made a motion that **SB 356 Do Pass (LC 47 0286)**. Sen Brass (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 356 DO PASS (LC 47 0286)**

**SR 690 (Sen. Ligon, 3rd, LC 34 5616) Georgia Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund; support implementation of the Coastal Georgia Greenway; encourage**

The Chair recognized Sen. Ligon (3rd) for the purpose of presenting the resolution. Sen. Ligon (3rd) presented the resolution to the Committee.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Brent Buice, Georgia/South Carolina Southwest Coordinator for Greenway Alliance

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion to strike lines 26-28 and also to replace “allocate the specific amount of 3,000.000” with “request funding from Stewardship fund” instead. Sen. Heath (31st) second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Note:** Sen. Wilkinson (50th) left early at 2:35 p.m.

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 that **SR 690 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-2.

Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harrell (40th), Sen. Karinschak (48th), Sen. Tippins (37th), voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Heath (31st) and Sen. Brass (28th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SR 690 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0410S)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Tuesday, February 25, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Sen. Gail Davenport (44th), and Sen. John Wilkinson (50th), were absent.

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) arrived at 3:37 p.m.

**SB 407 (Sen. Harper, 7th, LC 44 1416) Forest Resources and Other Plant Life; harvest and sale of palmetto berries; regulate**

The Chair presented the bill and proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Rep. James Burchett (176th) to testify to similar legislation in the House.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Tom Beyer, GA Forestry Assn., V.P. of Government Affairs  
David Hornsby, Weyerhaeuser  
Shawn Derone, Rayonier Inc.  
Walter McDaniel, Okefenokee Botanicals, Inc.

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion to **Amend** the proposed substitute. Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **SB 407 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Tippins (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 407 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0445S)**

**SB 384** (Sen. Ligon, 3rd, LC 45 0393) **Solid Waste Management; location of any municipal solid waste disposal facility within certain distance of a blackwater river; flows directly into the ocean; prohibit**

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

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Laura Early, Satilla Riverkeeper

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) who made a motion to **Amend** the proposed substitute. Sen. Heath (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who made a motion that **SB 384 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 384 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0443S)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary



**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Tuesday, March 3, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Tuesday, March 3, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Jack Hill (4th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m.

**SB 473 (Sen. Harper, 7th, LC 45 0463ER) Conservation and Natural Resources; duties, powers, and responsibilities relative to historic preservation; from Department of Natural Resources to the Department of Community Affairs; transfer**

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) 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:*

Mark Williams, Commissioner at the Department of Natural Resources

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins (37th) arrived at 3:31 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Sen. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **SB 473 Do Pass (LC 45 0463ER)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass (28th) and Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 3:50 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims left at 3:50 p.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 473 DO PASS (LC 45 0463ER)**

**SB 474 (Sen. Harper, 7th, LC 45 0460) Department of Natural Resources; construct, operate, maintain, and supply informational materials at welcome centers assigned to it by the Governor; provide**

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Mark Williams, Commissioner DNR

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

Sen. Davenport (44th) made a motion to **Amend** section 1, line 31 by deleting the word “Cigarettes”. Sen. Heath (31st) 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. Heath (31st) who made a motion that **SB 474 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Wilkinson (50th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harrell (40th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Hill (4th), and Sen. Wilkinson (50th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Karinshak (48th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 474 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0470S)**

**SB 426 (Sen. Strickland, 17th, LC 45 0430EC) Air Quality; reporting of any unpermitted release of ethylene oxide to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Strickland (17th) 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:*

Wes Robinson, GA Chemistry Council

Rep. Allen (40th) spoke in support of proposed amendments

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Janet Rau, Stop Sterigenics GA Group, Covington, GA

John Hitchins, Cobb County Stop Sterigenics GA Group

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) returned.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who offered **Amendment 1**, amending line 25 to read “any release of Ethylene Oxide should be reported by EPD”. Sen. Karinshak (48th) also offered **Amendment 2**, replacing verbiage reading “may report” with “shall report”.

The Chair advised the Committee would hear amendments after speaking to the underlying substitute to **SB 426**.

The Chair waived the 24 hour rule on presentation of amendments due to late meeting notice.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion **SB 426 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 45 0447-ECS)**. Sen. Heath (31st) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who made a motion to **Adopt Amendment 1**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 4-7.

Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harrell (40th), and Sen. Sims (12th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Wilkinson (50th), and Sen. Hill (4th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who made a motion to **Amend Amendment 2**, striking a contested portion and reoffering **Amendment 2 As Amended**. Sen. Karinshak (48th) then made a motion to **Adopt Amendment 2 As Amended**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion failed 4-7.

Sen. Karinshak (48th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harrell (40th), and Sen. Sims (12th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Wilkinson (50th), and Sen. Hill (4th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **SB 426 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 45 0447-ECS)**. Sen. Heath (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-1.

Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Davenport (44th), Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harrell (40th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Wilkinson (50th), and Sen. Sims (12th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Karinshak (48th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 426 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0447-ECS)**

Chairman Harper (7th) called for committee to stand in recess from 4:10 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. to allow for members to attend other conflicting committee meetings.

Chairman Harper (7th) reconvened the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment on Tuesday, March 3rd at 6:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Sims (12th), and Sen. Tippins (37th) were absent.

**SB 445 (Sen. Kennedy, 18th, LC 47 0388) Soil Erosion and Sedimentation; water and sewer authorities to be designated as local issuing authorities for land-disturbing activity permits; authorize**

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

The Chair opened up the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Sen. Brass (28th) who made a motion that **SB 445 Do Pass (LC 47 0388)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 445 DO PASS (LC 47 0388)**

**SB 461 (Sen. Anderson, 24th, LC 41 2414) Soil Amendments; further regulation of soil amendments derived from industrial by-products by local governments; authorize**

The Chair stated that SB 461 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Lee Anderson (24th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Anderson (24th) 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:*

Billy Pittard, Oglethorpe Board of Commissioners and ACCG  
Sam Moore, Wilkes County Board of Commissioners  
Bob Thomas, County Administrator for Elbert County  
Mike Giles, President Georgia Poultry Federation

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 461 (LC 41 2414) No action was taken.**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Thursday, March 5, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44<sup>th</sup>)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Sen. Jack Hill (4th), Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), and Sen. John Wilkinson (50th) were absent.

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**SB 426 (Sen. Strickland, 17th, LC 45 4030EC) Air Quality; reporting of any unpermitted release of ethylene oxide to the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Brian Strickland (17th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Strickland (17th) presented the bill and new proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Wes Robinson, Georgia Chemical Council  
Karen Hays, GA EPD  
Sen. Rhett (33rd)  
Sen. Karinshak (48th)

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who made a motion that **SB 426 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 45 0476-ECS)**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 426 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 45 0476-ECS)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 6:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Tuesday, June 16, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at 3:30 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th)  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak, (48th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 3:36 p.m.

**HB 966 (Rep. Burchett, 176th, LC 45 0446S) Conservation and natural resources; regulate the harvest and sale of palmetto berries**

The Chair recognized Rep. James Burchett (176th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Burchett (176th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair and Sen. Karinshak (48th) offered an amendment to change the language on line 104 and 105 from “farmers” to “land owners”.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harrell (40th) who made a motion that **HB 966 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Brass (28th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Karinshak (48th) who made a motion to **Adopt the Amendment (AM 45 0033)**. Sen. Brass (28th) second the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

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

**Committee Recommendation: HB 966 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 47 0577S)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 3:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Friday, June 19, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Friday, June 19, 2020 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Gail Davenport, (44th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) Ex-Officio (*Left Early*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary, Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Sen. Wilkinson (50th), and Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) were absent.

**NOTE:** Sen. Ben Watson (1st) was appointed to the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment, as an Ex-Officio member, by the Committee on Assignments for the meeting held on June 19, 2020. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 8:11 a.m.

**[HB 833](#) (Rep. Stephens, 164th, LC 45 0474S) Waters, ports, and watercraft; promulgate rules and regulations regarding long-term anchoring; authorize**

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 then opened the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Mark Williams, Department of Natural Resources, to respond to questions along with Rep. Stephens (164th).

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 833 Do Pass (LC 45 0474S)**, Sen. Heath (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 833 DO PASS (LC 45 0474S)**

**[HB 998](#) (Rep. Rhodes, 120<sup>th</sup>, LC 45 0442S) Game and fish; effective date of rules and regulations promulgated by the Board of Natural Resources; change**

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair then opened the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 998 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Tippins (37<sup>th</sup>) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 998 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 44 1515S)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th) arrived at 8:30 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Watson (1st) left early at 8:30 a.m.

**HB 93 (Rep. Williams, 145<sup>th</sup>, LC 45 0257ERS) Water pollution and surface-water use; notice to local governing authorities prior to the dewatering of coal combustion residual surface impoundments; provide**

The Chairman recognized Rep. Rick Williams (145th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Williams (145th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sally Harrell (40th) arrived at 8:42 a.m.

The Chair recognized Lauren Curry, Deputy Director at Georgia Environmental Protection Division, to speak to the bill.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion to **Amend** the bill by removing the last sentence of section 2, and striking lines 84-85. Sen. Heath (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-1.

Sen. Heath (31st), Sen. Davenport, (44th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Harrell (40th), and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Karinshak (48th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins (37th) who made a motion to **Amend** line (73) to read “prior to” and line (76) to read “7 days to 2 days”. Sen. Karinshak (48th) 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. Tippins (37th) who made a motion that **HB 93 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Karinshak seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 93 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 44 1516S)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 9:05a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary



**OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

240 STATE CAPITOL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 19, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, I hereby appoint **Senator Ben Watson** to serve as an **Ex-Officio** for the Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee on **June 19, 2020**.

Sincerely,

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

Geoff Duncan  
Lieutenant Governor

cc: Senator Tyler Harper, Chairman

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment  
Monday, June 22, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the Environment met on Monday, June 22, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Tyler Harper (7th), Chairman  
Sen. Bill Heath (31st), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary  
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)  
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th) Ex-Officio  
Sen. Sally Harrell (40th)  
Sen. Zahra Karinshak (48th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)  
Sen. John Wilkinson (50th)

**NOTE:** Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) and Sen. Lindsey Tippins (37th) were absent.

Chairman Harper (7th) called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m.

**[HB 1057](#) (Rep. Rhodes, 120th, LC 44 1488S) Agriculture; further regulation of soil amendments derived from industrial by-products by local governments; authorize**

The Chair recognized Rep. Trey Rhodes (120th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep Rhodes presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

The Chair recognized Lauren Curry and Tim Cooley, Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and Gary Black, Agriculture Commissioner, to respond to questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 1057 Do Pass (LC 44 1488S)**. Sen. Wilkinson (50th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 1057 DO PASS (LC 44 1488S)**

Chairman Harper (7th) adjourned the meeting at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Matt Brass (28th), Secretary

/s/ Evelyn Thomas, Recording Secretary