

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT
2020 ROSTER**

Sen. Ellis Black, Chairman

District 8
5900 Jumping Gully Road
Valdosta, GA 31601

Sen. Jack Hill, Ex-Officio *(until April 7, 2020)*

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

Sen. Chuck Hufstetler, Vice-Chairman

District 52
3 Orchard Spring Dr.
Rome, GA 30165

Sen. Randy Robertson

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

Sen. Tonya Anderson, Secretary

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

Sen. Larry Walker III *(as of June 17, 2020)*

District 20
1110 Washington St.
Perry, GA 30577

Sen. John Albers, Ex-Officio *(as of June 17, 2020)*

District 56
101 Vickery St.
Roswell, GA 30075

Sen. Nikema Williams

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

Sen. Gail Davenport

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

THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON RETIREMENT

2019- 2020 RULES

1. Quorum of the Committees 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, January 29th, 2020

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, January 29th, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) (*Arrived Late*)
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 4:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Hill (4th) arrived at 4:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Davenport (44th) arrived at 4:04 p.m.

SB 262: (Sen. Harbison, 15th, LC 43 1352) Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; eligibility of beneficiary to make new retirement election; provide

The Chair stated that SB 262 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Harbison (15th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Committee Recommendation: SB 262 (LC 43 1352) No action was taken.

SB 26: (Sen. Ligon, 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 (3rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Ligon (3rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 26 Do Pass (LC 43 1098)**. Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 26 DO PASS (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 that **SB 26 Do Pass (LC 43 1100)**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 47 DO PASS (LC 43 1100)

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 stated that SB 248 would receive a hearing only.

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 opened the floor for public testimony. The Chair recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Mr. Bob Carter of the Peace Officers Annuity Benefit Fund of Georgia

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

None

Committee Recommendation: SB 248 (LC 43 1348) No action was taken.

SB 249: (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 1347) Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; amount of monthly dues paid; increase; amounts collected from fines; revise

The Chair stated that SB 249 would receive a hearing only.

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 opened the floor for public testimony. The Chair recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Ms. Stacy Freeman of the American Property Casualty Insurance Association

Mr. Bobby Potter of State Farm

Ms. Emily Bagwell of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

None

Committee Recommendation: SB 249 (LC 43 1347) No action was taken.

SB 262: (Sen. Harbison, 15th, LC 43 1352) 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 recognized Sen. Hill (4th) who made a motion that **SB 262 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 43 1422S)**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 262 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 1422S)

SB 294: (Sen. Black, 8th, LC 43 1465) Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; invest in alternative investments; permit

The Chair stated that SB 294 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for public testimony. The Chair recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Mr. Buster Evans of the Teachers' Retirement System of Georgia

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

None

Committee Recommendation: SB 294 (LC 43 1465) No action was taken.

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement
Wednesday, February 19th, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 19, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Tyler Harper (7th) (Ex-Officio) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Jack Hill (4th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)

NOTE: Sen. Harper (7th) was appointed to serve as an Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee for the meeting on February 19, 2020. A copy of the letter is attached.

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

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at 4:03 p.m.

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 that **SB 248 Do Pass for Actuarial Study (LC 43 1511S)**. Sen. Hill (4th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Committee Recommendation: SB 248 DO PASS FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1511S)

NOTE: Sen. Davenport (44th) arrived at 4:05 p.m.

SB 249 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 1347) Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund; amount of monthly dues paid; increase; amounts collected from fines; revise

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

The Chair opened the floor for public testimony. The Chair recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Ms. Debra Nesbit of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia
Mr. Joel Wiggins of the Georgia Municipal Association

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

None

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) left at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hill (4th) who made a motion that **SB 249 Do Pass for Actuarial Study (LC 43 1471S)**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 249 DO PASS FOR ACTUARIAL STUDY (LC 43 1471S)

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) returned to the meeting at 4:11 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harper (7th) left the meeting early at 4:11 p.m.

SB 294: (Black, 8th, LC 43 1465) Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; invest in alternative investments; permit

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for public testimony. The Chair recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:

Ms. Margaret Ciccarelli of the Professional Association of Georgia Educators

Mr. Rod Chatham of the Georgia Retired Educators Association

NOTE: Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) arrived at 4:15 p.m.

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Former Senator Vincent Ford, Georgia State Senate

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 294 Do Pass (LC 43 1465)**. Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2.

Sen. Hill (4th), Sen. Robertson (29th) and Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Davenport (44th) and Sen. Anderson (43rd) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 294 DO PASS (LC 43 1465)

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 19, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, I hereby appoint **Senator Tyler Harper** to serve as an **Ex-Officio** for the Senate Retirement Committee for **February 19, 2020**.

Sincerely,

/s/ Geoff Duncan
Geoff Duncan
Lieutenant Governor of Georgia

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement
Wednesday, February 26th, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, February 26th, 2020, at 4:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th)

NOTE: Sen. Albers (56th) was appointed to serve as an Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee for the meeting on February 26th, 2020. A copy of the letter is attached.

NOTE: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary, Sen. Jack Hill (4th), and Sen. Gail Davenport (44th) were absent.

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

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 4:06 p.m.

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

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 recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion that **SB 271 Do Pass (LC 43 1327)**. Sen. Williams (39th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 271 DO PASS (LC 43 1327)

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. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion that **SB 248 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 43 1511S)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Committee Recommendation: SB 248 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 1511S)

SB 249 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 1347) 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.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson left the meeting early at 4:11 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) who made a motion that **SB 249 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 43 1471S)**. Sen. Williams (39th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 249 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 43 1471S)

NOTE: Sen Robertson returned to the meeting at 4:12 p.m.

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 26, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, and in agreement with the Senate Committee on Assignments, I hereby appoint **Senator John Albers** to serve as an **Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee** for the meeting on **February 26, 2020**.

Sincerely,

Geoff Duncan
Lt. Governor of Georgia

cc: Appointee
Legislative Fiscal Office
Committee Chairman

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement
Wednesday, June 17th, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Wednesday, June 17th, 2020, at 4:45 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Nikema Williams (39th)

NOTE: Sen. John Albers (56th) and Sen. Walker (20th) were each appointed to serve as an Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee. Copies of the appointment letters are attached.

NOTE: Sen. Randy Robertson (27th), Sen. Albers (56th) and Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) were absent.

Chairman Black (8th) called the meeting to order at 4:47 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) arrived at 4:48 p.m.

[HB 195](#) (Rep. Benton, 31st, LC 43 1171) Georgia Firefighters' Pension Fund; increase benefit amount payable to beneficiaries after the member's death

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. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **HB 195 Do Pass (LC 43 1171)**. Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1.

Chairman Black (8th), Sen. Hufstetler (52nd), Sen. Walker (20th) and Sen. Davenport (44th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Williams (39th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 195 DO PASS (LC 43 1171)

[HB 245](#) (Rep. Buckner, 137th, LC 43 1167) Peace Officers' Annuity Fund; require certain benefits payable to a surviving spouse to terminate if such surviving spouse remarries; remove a provision

The Chair recognized Rep. Debbie Buckner (137th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Buckner (137th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Davenport (44th) who made a motion **HB 245 Do Pass (LC 43 1167)**. Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously

Committee Recommendation: HB 245 DO PASS (LC 43 1167)

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 4:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 17, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, and in agreement with the Senate Committee on Assignments, I hereby appoint **Senator John Albers** to serve as an **Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee**.

Sincerely,

/s/ Geoff Duncan
Geoff Duncan
Lieutenant Governor of Georgia

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

GEOFF DUNCAN
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

June 17, 2020

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

Dear Mr. Cook,

In accordance with the Senate Rules, and in agreement with the Senate Committee on Assignments, I hereby appoint **Senator Larry Walker III** to serve as an **Ex-Officio for the Senate Retirement Committee**.

Sincerely,

/s/ Geoff Duncan
Geoff Duncan
Lt. Governor of Georgia

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement
Monday, June 22nd, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Monday, June 22nd, 2020, at 11:00am. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary
Sen. Gail Davenport (44th)
Sen. Larry Walker (20th) (Ex-Officio)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)

NOTE: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman, Sen. John Albers (56th) and Sen. Nikema Williams (39th) were absent.

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

HB 663 (Rep. Efstrotation, 104th, LC 43 1421S) Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership for certain persons employed in certain full time positions requiring admission to the State Bar of Georgia as a condition of employment; require

The Chair recognized Rep. Chuck Efstrotation (104th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Efstrotation (104th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion **HB 663 Do Pass (LC 43 1421S)**. Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 663 DO PASS (LC 43 1421S)

HB 292 (Rep. Benton, 31st, LC 43 1173) Regents Retirement Plan; certain remittances required to be made by the University System of Georgia to the Teachers Retirement System of Georgia; eliminate

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. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **HB 292 Do Pass (LC 43 1173)**. Sen. Davenport (44th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 292 DO PASS (LC 43 1173)

Chairman Black (8th) adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Retirement
Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020**

The Senate Committee on Retirement met on Tuesday, June 23rd, 2020, at 8:00 a.m. in the Senate Mezzanine. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Ellis Black (8th), Chairman

Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)

Sen. John Albers (56th) (Ex-Officio)

Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)

NOTE: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary, Sen. Gail Davenport (44th), Sen. Williams (39th), and Sen. Walker (20th) were absent.

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

HB 664 (Rep. Fleming, 121st, LC 43 1418S) Georgia Judicial Retirement System; membership for certain persons employed in certain full-time positions requiring admission to the State Bar of Georgia as a condition of employment; require

The Chair recognized Rep. Barry Fleming (121st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Fleming (121st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **HB 664 Do Pass (LC 43 1418S)**. Sen. Albers (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 664 DO PASS (LC 43 1418S)

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

Respectfully Submitted,

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

Jinnie Christensen, Recording Secretary