

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND YOUTH  
2021 ROSTER**

**Sen. Chuck Payne, Chairman**

District 54  
P.O. Box 1074  
Dalton, GA 30722

**Sen. Sonya Halpern**

District 39  
P.O. Box 13142  
Atlanta, GA 30305

**Sen. Jason Anavitarte, Vice-Chairman**

District 31  
316 Blackberry Run Drive  
Dallas, GA 30132

**Sen. Lester Jackson**

District 2  
1501 Abercorn Street  
Savannah, GA 31401

**Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, Secretary**

District 12  
5377 Goose Hollow Road  
Dawson, GA 31742

**Sen. Donzella James**

District 35  
P.O. Box 311225  
Atlanta, GA 30331

**Sen. John Albers**

District 56  
101 Vickery Street  
Roswell, GA 30075

**Sen. Sheila McNeill**

District 3  
139 Altama Connector #345  
Brunswick, GA 31525

**Sen. Matt Brass, Ex-Officio**

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

**Sen. Elena Parent**

District 42  
956 Springdale Road  
Atlanta, GA 30306

**Sen. Greg Dolezal**

District 27  
6505 Shiloh Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30005

**Sen. Lindsey Tippins, Ex-Officio**

District 37  
139 Midway Road  
Marietta, GA 30064

**Sen. Steve Gooch, Ex-Officio**

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

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND YOUTH**  
**Rules 2020 – 2021**

**The Rules of the Committee shall be the Rules of the Subcommittees.**

1. The quorum for the Education and Youth Committee shall be 6 members. Record of attendance will be maintained for each full Committee or subcommittee meeting. This information shall be considered public.
2. The Committee shall convene, recess and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman. Recess or adjournment of the Committee may also take place by an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present.
3. A bill or resolution will only be placed on the Committee agenda after its principal sponsor completes a bill summary form. When a bill or resolution is placed on the Committee agenda, the principal sponsor shall be notified of the time and the place of the hearing. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal sponsor or a legislator designated by the principal sponsor.
4. The Chairman shall establish the meeting agenda and determine the measures to be considered and the order of consideration. No motion that the Committee recommends (Do Pass, Do Not Pass, etc) shall be in order until the Chairperson has stated that such a motion will be entertained.
5. The Chairman may appoint subcommittees and officers of subcommittees, and at the discretion of the Chairman, refer any matter to a subcommittee; but no measure will be returned to the full Senate until it is considered by the full Committee. All Committee officers will be ex-officio voting subcommittee members.
6. Any member or members who disagree with the majority report of the Committee may file a minority report as provided in the Rules of the Senate.
7. These Rules may be amended or suspended upon the motion duly made and approved by a majority of the members of the Committee.
8. Five minutes prior to, during, and five minutes after a televised or web-cast Committee meeting, no one other than a member of the Committee, Legislative Counsel, Committee Aide, Administrative Assistant to the Chairperson, or Committee Intern, shall walk beyond the witness pulpit for any reason.
9. During Committee meetings, Committee members and everyone in the audience shall either turn off or place in silent mode all cell phones, pagers or other similar devices.

10. Any proposed measure shall include a fiscal note when appropriate, as determined by the Chairman, prior to Committee consideration.
11. All publications, flyers, or any other materials to be distributed to the Committee shall be given to the Chairman or their assistant and will be distributed by the Chairman at the appropriate time.
12. Except for Legislative Counsel, no one shall speak to a member of the Committee while a televised or web-cast meeting is in progress without first obtaining the consent of the Chairman. A request to speak should be given to the Administrative Aide or Committee Aide, which will then be passed to the Chairman for approval.
13. Action may be taken by the Committee on any bill the first time it is presented, (except for those matters deemed as "Hearing Only" by the Chairperson.) The Chairperson shall have the option to take action on a resolution.
14. Committee and Subcommittee members may question witnesses only when they have been recognized by the Chairman for that purpose. The Chairman may also set time limits for the process.
15. The Secretary of the Committee shall cause a copy of the Rules to be distributed to all members of the Senate.

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth**  
**Wednesday, January 27, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, January 27, 2021 at 2:15 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Left Early*)  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Left Early*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) was absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:17 p.m., asking Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to open with prayer.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) and Sen. Albers, (56th) arrived at 2:18 p.m.

Chairman Payne, (54th) introduced himself and presented the Committee Rules to the Committee. The quorum for the Committee will change from 5 to 6 members. The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion to adopt the Committee Rules. Sen. Tippins, (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) arrived at 2:19 p.m.

The Chair recognized Superintendent Richard Woods of the Georgia Department of Education to present a presentation to the committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) arrived at 2:26 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 3:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) left at 3:01 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) returned at 3:04 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) and Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 3:10 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) left at 3:15 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jackson, (2nd) left at 3:18 p.m.

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 3:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Monday, February 1, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Monday, February 1, 2021 at 3:30 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary  
Sen. John Albers, (56th)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) was absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m., asking Sen. Halpern, (39th) to open with prayer.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 3:34 p.m.

**SB 20** (Sen. Payne, 54th, LC 33 8470) **Child Advocate Advisory Committee; composition; revise**

The Chair recognized himself for the purpose of presenting the bill. Chairman Payne, (54th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 20 Do Pass (LC 33 8470)**. Sen. Sims, (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 10-0.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 20 DO PASS (LC 33 8470)**

**SB 42** (Sen. Mullis, 53rd, LC 49 0273) **Education; school climate rating does not include discipline data; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Mullis, (53rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Mullis, (53rd) and DeAnna Harris of Educators First presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 4:06 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) left at 4:08 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) returned at 4:10 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) who made a motion to table **SB 42 (LC 49 0273)**. Sen. Parent, (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 9-0.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 42 WAS TABLED (LC 49 0273)**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth**  
**Wednesday, February 3, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 2:15 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) was absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:16 p.m., asking Sen. Jackson, (2nd) to open with prayer.

**SB 3 (Sen. Jackson, 2nd, LC 41 2670) Education; mandatory education from 16 to 17; raise the age**

The Chair stated that SB 3 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Jackson, (2nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) arrived at 2:18 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 2:21 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) arrived at 2:22 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) returned at 2:24 p.m.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Scott Bierman of Georgia School Boards Association

*Neutral Testimony on the Bill:*

Robert “Buddy” Costley of Georgia Association of Educational Leaders

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 2:44 p.m.



**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) left at 2:50 p.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 3 (LC 41 2670) No Action Taken**

**SB 42** (Sen. Mullis, 53rd, LC 49 0273) Education; school climate rating does not include discipline data; provide

The Chair stated that SB 42 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) for the purpose of presenting a proposed substitute to the bill. Sen. Tippins, (37th) presented the substitute to the Committee (**LC 49 0390S**).

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) and Sen. Parent, (42nd) left at 3:00 p.m.

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

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Caroline Durham of Georgia Appleseed

Pamela Perkins Carn of End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network

**Committee Recommendation: SB 42 (LC 49 0273) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Monday, February 8, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Monday, February 8, 2021 at 4:45 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Left Early*)  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) and Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 4:49 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jackson, (2nd) arrived at 4:50 p.m.

**SB 47 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 49 0328) Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act; revise prior school year requirement**

The Chair stated that SB 47 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch, (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch, (51st) and Hannah Heck of American Federation for Children, Inc. presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) arrived at 4:53 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. McNeill, (3rd) arrived at 4:54 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 5:04 p.m.

Sen. Sims, (12th) called on Tiffany Taylor, Deputy Superintendent of the Georgia Department of Education, to speak to the bill.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Jamie Lord of American Federation for Children and Georgia Center for Opportunity

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Lisa Morgan of Georgia Association of Educators

Gretchen Walton of Cobb County School District

Robert “Buddy” Costley of Georgia Association of Educational Leaders

Claire Suggs of Professional Association of Georgia Educators

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 5:25 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 5:39 p.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 47 (LC 49 0328) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 5:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Wednesday, February 10, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, February 10, 2021 at 2:15 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th), Sen. John Albers, (56th) and Sen. Matt Brass, (28th) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m., asking Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to open with prayer.

Chairman Payne welcomed Sen. Gooch (51st) as a member of the Education and Youth Committee, appointed by the Lt. Governor, to serve as Ex-Officio. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) arrived at 2:18 p.m.

**SB 88** (Sen. Goodman, 8th, LC 49 0351-EC) Education; Georgia Teacher of the Year shall be invited to serve as advisor ex officio to the State Board of Education; provide

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Parent, (42nd) who made a motion that **SB 88 Do Pass (LC 49 0351-EC)**. Sen. Tippins, (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 8-0.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 88 DO PASS (LC 49 0351-EC)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Jackson, (2nd) arrived at 2:23 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) left at 2:23 p.m.

The Chair recognized Margaret Ciccarelli of the Professional Association of Georgia Educators who announced that she was in favor of the bill.

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary



**OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

340 STATE CAPITOL  
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

**GEOFF DUNCAN**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 8, 2021

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 Steve Gough** to serve as an **Ex-Officio for the Senate Education and Youth Committee**.

Sincerely,

Geoff Duncan  
Lt. Governor of Georgia

cc: Appointee  
Legislative Fiscal Office  
Committee Chairman

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**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth**  
**Wednesday, February 17, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, February 17, 2021 at 2:15 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Left Early*)  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) and Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:15 p.m., asking Sen. Brass, (28th) to open with prayer.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) arrived at 2:16 p.m.

**SB 42 (Sen. Mullis, 53rd, LC 49 0273) Education; school climate rating does not include discipline data; provide**

The Chair recognized DeAnna Harris of Educators First for the purpose of speaking to the bill on behalf of Senator Mullis. DeAnna Harris presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

None

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Pamela Perkins Carn of End Mass Incarceration Georgia Network

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 2:23 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. McNeill, (3rd) left at 2:23 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. McNeill, (3rd) returned at 2:25 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) arrived at 2:25 p.m.

Sen. Sims, (12th) called on Kerry Pritchard of the Georgia Department of Education to speak to the bill.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) who presented an amendment to the committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) who made a motion to **amend SB 42** on line 45 after 740 by adding “and shall furnish a print copy of the specific information as reported for any particular school in the district to any requester at no charge”. Sen. Brass, (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 10-0

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 42 Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Tippins, (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-2.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. McNeill (3rd), Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th) and Sen. Parent (42nd) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 42 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0469S)**

**SB 59** (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 49 0349) Education; additional QBE funding for each full-time equivalent student within a local charter school; provide

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 questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Bonnie Holiday of Georgia Charter Schools Association  
Peter McKnight of Drew Charter School  
Delana Reeves of Westside Charter School  
Barry Lollis of Savannah Classical Academy  
Davion Lewis of RISE Schools  
Mike Looney of Fulton County Schools

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Robert Costley of Georgia Association of Educational Leaders  
Scott Bierman of Georgia School Boards Association

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (27th) left at 2:53 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (27th) returned at 3:05 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) left at 3:06 p.m.



The Chair recognized Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) who made a motion that **SB 59 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0410S)**. Sen. McNeill, (3rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-4.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st) and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Halpern (39th) and Sen. Jackson (2nd) voted against the motion.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) returned at 3:08 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (27th) left at 3:09 p.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 59 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0410S)**

**SB 51 (Sen. Thompson, 14th, LC 49 0346) "Dexter Mosely Act"; enact**

The Chair recognized Sen. Thompson, (14th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Thompson, (14th) and Cole Muzio of Family Policy Alliance presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 3:10 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Robin Hines of Georgia High School Association  
Chenelle Mosley, Widower of Dexter Mosley

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) returned at 3:20 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 51 Do Pass (LC 49 0346)**. Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-2.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. McNeill (3rd) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Jackson (2nd) and Sen. Parent (42nd) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 51 DO PASS (LC 49 0346)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) left at 3:23 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 3:23 p.m.

**SB 3 (Sen. Jackson, 2nd, LC 41 2670) Education; mandatory education from 16 to 17; raise the age**

The Chair stated that he is not prepared to take action on SB 3 today. There is a fiscal note to consider as the Committee moves forward.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Jackson (2nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Gooch, (51st) left at 3:25 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 3 (LC 41 2670) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Chairman

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Monday, February 22, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Monday, February 22, 2021 at 3:30 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) was absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m., asking Sen. Parent, (42nd) to open with prayer.

**SB 47 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 49 0328) “Georgia Special Needs Scholarship Act”; revise prior school year requirement**

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) arrived at 3:33 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) arrived at 3:34 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jackson, (2nd) arrived at 3:39 p.m.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Michael O’Sullivan of GeorgiaCAN  
Virginia Galloway of Faith and Freedom Coalition

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

John Zauner of Georgia School Superintendents Association  
Sujith Cherukumilli of Southern Education Foundation

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 4:03 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) returned at 4:16 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 47 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0442S)**. Sen. Dolezal, (27th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-5.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Gooch (51st) and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. Parent (42nd), Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 47 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0442S)**

**SB 159** (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 39 2874) **Elementary and Secondary Education; provision relating to student transportation; revise**

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 questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

John Franklin of Atlanta Public Schools

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 159 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 2935S)**. Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 10-1

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. McNeill (3rd), Sen. Parent (42nd) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 159 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 2935S)**

**SB 66** (Sen. Anavitarte, 31st, LC 49 0358) **Georgia Foundation for Public Education; a nonprofit corporation created by the foundation to receive private donations to be used for grants to public schools; authorize**

The Chair recognized Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) left at 4:31 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **SB 66 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0423S)**. Sen. Gooch, (51st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-2.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd) and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against the motion.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) returned at 4:33 p.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 66 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0423S)**

**SB 153** (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 49 0405) "Graduation Opportunities and Advanced Learning (GOAL) Act"; enact

The Chair indicated that he would not take any action on the bill, and that it would be held until the Committee's next meeting.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 153 (LC 49 0405) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 4:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Friday, February 26, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Friday, February 26, 2021 at 8:00 a.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) and Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., asking Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to open with prayer.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 8:01 a.m.

**SB 153 (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 49 0405) "Graduation Opportunities and Advanced Learning (GOAL) Act"; enact**

The Chair stated that SB 153 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal, (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Dolezal, (27th) and Mike Dudgeon, Policy Director of the Lieutenant Governor's Office, presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. McNeill, (3rd) arrived at 8:03 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) arrived at 8:04 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) arrived at 8:04 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Gooch, (51st) arrived at 8:07 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Halpern, (39th) arrived at 8:09 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

None

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Paul Williams of Foothills Education Charter High School  
Wayne Lovell of Mountain Education Charter High School  
Dr. Nathan Franklin of Foothills Education Charter High School  
Ricky Rentz of Coastal Plains Education Charter High School

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) arrived at 8:18 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 8:46 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) returned at 8:49 a.m.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 153 (LC 49 0405) No Action Taken**

**SB 3** (Sen. Jackson, 2nd, LC 41 2670) Education; mandatory education from 16 to 17; raise the age

The Chair recommended SB 3 be taken up by a study committee in the interim.

**Chair Recommendation: SB 3 (LC 41 2670) No Action Taken**

**SB 220** (Sen. Payne, 54th, LC 49 0440) "The Georgia Civics Renewal Act"; enact

The Chair recognized himself for the purpose of presenting the bill. Chairman Payne, (54th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) left at 9:03 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) who made a motion that **SB 220 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0463S)**. Sen. Sims, (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. McNeill (3rd), Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Dolezal (27th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 220 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0463S)**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 9:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary



**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Monday, March 1, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Monday, March 1, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Left Early*)  
Sen. John Albers, (56th) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th) and Sen. Matt Brass, (28th) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m., asking Sen. Dolezal, (27th) to open with prayer.

**SB 153 (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 49 0405) "Graduation Opportunities and Advanced Learning (GOAL) Act"; enact**

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal, (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Dolezal, (27th) and Mike Dudgeon, Policy Director of the Lieutenant Governor's Office, presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Gooch, (51st) arrived at 11:03 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) arrived at 11:04 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37nd) arrived at 11:09 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) arrived at 11:15 a.m.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Gregg Stevens of Foothills Education Charter High School  
Buzz Brockway of the State Charter Schools Commission of Georgia

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Gooch, (51st) who made a motion that **SB 153 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0482S)**. Sen. Albers, (56th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-1.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Gooch (51st), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. Parent (42nd), Sen. Tippins (37th) and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 153 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0482S)**

**SB 106** (Sen. Davenport, 44th, LC 49 0374) **Education; multi-tiered system of supports; include wraparound services to be provided prior to expelling or assigning a student in preschool through third grade to out-of-school suspension for more than five consecutive or cumulative days**

The Chair recognized Sen. Davenport, (44th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Davenport, (44th) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Gooch, (51st) left at 11:27 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Rev. James Woodall of the Georgia NAACP

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Robert Costley of Georgia Association of Educational Leaders

**Committee Recommendation: SB 106 (LC 49 0374) No Action Taken**

**SB 246** (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 49 0412) **"The Learning Pod Protection Act"; exemptions applicable to learning pods, student attendance, administrative and judicial proceedings; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to present the bill on behalf of Sen. Brass, (28th). Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) left at 11:58 a.m.

Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) called on Kyle Wingfield of the Georgia Public Policy Foundation to speak to the bill.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Haydon Stanley of State Policy Network

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

None

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) left at 12:13 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) returned at 12:14 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal, (27th) who made a motion that **SB 246 Do Pass (LC 49 0412)**. Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-4.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. McNeill (3rd) and Sen. Payne (54th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. Parent (42nd) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 246 DO PASS (LC 49 0412)**

**SB 240 (Sen. Harrell, 40th, LC 49 0457) Education; instructional program for students in grades eleven and twelve; critical role elections play in the democratic way of life; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Harrell, (40th) for the purpose of presenting the bill to the Committee. Sen. Harrell, (40th) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) returned at 12:16 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Albers, (56th) and Sen. Tippins, (37th) left at 12:17 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) and Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) left at 12:18 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 240 (LC 49 0457) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 12:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth**  
**Wednesday, March 3, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 11:00 a.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th) (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th), Sen. John Albers, (56th) and Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m., asking Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to open with prayer.

**NOTE:** Sen. Parent, (42nd) arrived at 11:03 a.m.

**SB 106 (Sen. Davenport, 44th, LC 49 0374) Education; multi-tiered system of supports; include wraparound services to be provided prior to expelling or assigning a student in preschool through third grade to out-of-school suspension for more than five consecutive or cumulative days**

The Chair recognized Sen. Davenport, (44th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Davenport, (44th) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 11:04 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) arrived at 11:12 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) who made a motion to **amend SB 106** by changing the word from “shall” to “may” on line 48. Sen. Dolezal, (27th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Parent (42nd), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal, (27th) who made a motion to **amend SB 106** by changing the words “but not limited to” to “such as” on line 32. Sen. Tippins, (37th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 9-0.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) who made a motion that **SB 106 Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Parent, (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. McNeill (3rd) Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. Parent (42nd) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 106 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0494S)**

**SB 240** (Sen. Harrell, 40th, LC 49 0457) **Education; instructional program for students in grades eleven and twelve; critical role elections play in the democratic way of life; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Harrell, (40th) for the purpose of presenting the bill to the Committee. Sen. Harrell, (40th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims, (12th) left at 11:32 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal (27th) who made a motion to **amend SB 240** by changing “February 1, 2022” with “October 1, 2022” on line 29 and replacing the words “curriculum content” to “standards” on lines 42 and 44. Sen. Parent, (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-1.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) who made a motion that **SB 240 Do Pass By Substitute**. Sen. Parent, (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-4.

Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd), Sen. Parent (42nd), and Sen. Payne (54th), voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Tippins (37th), Sen. McNeill (3rd), and Sen. Brass (28th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 240 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0500S)**

**SB 266 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 28 0265) "Save Girls Sports Act"; enact**

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbin, (16th) for the purpose of presenting the bill to the Committee. Sen. Harbin, (16th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Sen. Harbin, (16th) presented a video to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) left at 11:45 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) returned at 11:48 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

Sen. Harbin, (16th) recognized Matt Sharpe of Alliance Defending Freedom to speak on behalf of the bill.

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

*Testimony in favor of the Bill:*

Virginia Galloway of Faith and Freedom Coalition

Mike Griffin of Georgia Baptist Mission Board

*Testimony in opposition to the Bill:*

Caroline Holko, Parent

Roland Behm of American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (Georgia Chapter)

Shannon Clawson of Georgia Equality

Jen Slipakoff, Parent

The Chair recognized Sen. Tippins, (37th) who made a motion that **SB 266 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 28 0290S)**. Sen. Dolezal, (27th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson, (2nd) who made a motion for a rollcall vote for SB 266. Sen. Parent, (42nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

The rollcall vote for SB 266 passed by a vote of 5-3.

Sen. Anavitarte (31st), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Dolezal (27th), Sen. Tippins (37th) and Sen. McNeill (3rd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (2nd) and Sen. Parent (42nd) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 266 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 28 0290S)**

**NOTE:** Sen. Brass, (28th) left at 12:22 p.m.

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Chairman

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary



**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth**  
**Wednesday, March 17, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, March 17, 2021 at 2:15 p.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James, (35th), Sen. John Albers, (56th), Sen. Matt Brass, (28th) and Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 2:32 p.m., asking Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) to open with prayer.

**[HB 287](#) (Rep. Rich, 97th, LC 49 0368) Education; tobacco and vapor products in course of instruction regarding alcohol and drugs; include**

The Chair recognized Rep. Rich, (97th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Rich, (97th) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Tippins, (37th) arrived at 2:34 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Dolezal, (27th) arrived at 2:34 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**NOTE:** Sen. Jackson, (2nd) left at 2:39 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Halpern, (39th) arrived at 2:40 p.m.

Rep. Rich, (97th) asked Matt Cardoza of the Georgia Department of Education to speak on the bill.

**NOTE:** Sen Jackson, (2nd) returned at 2:41 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Anavitarte, (31st) who made a motion that **HB 287 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0515S)**. Sen. Jackson, (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 287 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0515S)**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Monday, March 22, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Monday, March 22, 2021 at 10:30 a.m., in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Chairman  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th)  
Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th)  
Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd)  
Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd)  
Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd)

**NOTE:** Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Sen. John Albers, (56th), Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), Sen. Donzella James, (35th) and Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th) were absent.

Chairman Payne, (54th) called the meeting to order at 10:36 a.m., asking Sen. Jackson, (2nd) to open with prayer.

**[HB 455](#) (Rep. Barr, 103rd, LC 39 2913S) Education; student transportation; revise a provision**

The Chair recognized Rep. Barr, (103rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Barr, (103rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. McNeill, (3rd) who made a motion that **HB 455 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 39 3055S)**. Sen. Jackson, (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 6-0.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 455 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 3055S)**

**[HB 681](#) (Rep. Yearta, 152nd, LC 49 0498S) Education; course of study in financial literacy for students in tenth or eleventh grade; provide**

The Chair stated that HB 681 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Yearta, (152nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Yearta, (152nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 681 (LC 49 0498S) No Action Taken**

Chairman Payne, (54th) adjourned the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Chairman Payne (54th), Chairman

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Education and Youth  
Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Education and Youth met on Wednesday, March 22, 2021 at 10:00 a.m., in Room 450 of the Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Jason Anavitarte, (31st), Vice Chairman  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, (12th), Secretary  
Sen. John Albers, (56th)  
Sen. Matt Brass, (28th), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Greg Dolezal, (27th) (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Steve Gooch, (51st), (Ex-Officio)  
Sen. Lindsey Tippins, (37th), (Ex-Officio)

**NOTE:** Sen. Chuck Payne, (54th), Sen. Sonya Halpern, (39th), Sen. Sheila McNeill, (3rd), Sen. Donzella James, (35th), Sen. Lester Jackson, (2nd) and Sen. Elena Parent, (42nd) were absent.

Vice-Chairman Anavitarte, (31st) called the meeting to order at 10:11 a.m., asking Sen. Albers, (56th) to open with prayer.

**[HB 681](#) (Rep. Yearta, 152nd, LC 49 0498S) Education; course of study in financial literacy for students in tenth or eleventh grade; provide**

**NOTE:** Sen Dolezal (27th) left at 10:12 a.m.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Thompson, (14th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Thompson (14th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Albers, (56th) who made a motion that **HB 681 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 49 0527S)**. Sen. Brass, (28th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 4-1.

Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Brass (28th), Sen. Gooch (51st) and Sen. Tippins (37th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th) voted against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 681 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 49 0527S)**

Vice-Chairman Anavitarte, (31st) adjourned the meeting at 10:16 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Secretary

/s/

Phyllis Williams, Recording Secretary