

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR  
2021 ROSTER**

**Sen. Dean Burke, Chairman**

District 11  
1906 Legette Drive  
Bainbridge, GA 39819

**Sen. David Lucas**

District 26  
2594 Saratoga Drive  
Macon, GA 31211

**Sen. Larry Walker, Vice-Chairman**

District 20  
1110 Washington Street  
Perry, GA 31069

**Sen. Nikki Merritt**

District 9  
1911 Grayson Highway, Suite 8367  
Grayson, GA 30017

**Sen. Marty Harbin, Secretary**

District 16  
215 Greencastle Road  
Tyrone, GA 30290

**Sen. Randy Robertson**

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

**Sen. Ed Harbison**

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

**Sen. Freddie Powell Sims, Ex-Officio**

District 12  
5377 Goose Hollow Road  
Dawson, GA 31742

**Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick**

District 32  
2146 Roswell Road, Suite 108895  
Marietta, GA 30062

**Sen. Ben Watson, Ex-Officio**

District 1  
1326 Eisenhower Drive #2  
Savannah, GA 31406

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE AND LABOR**  
**2021-2022 COMMITTEE RULES**

1. These Committee Rules and Operation shall be consistent with the Rules of the Senate and in the event of any conflict, the Rules of the Senate shall be observed.
2. Quorum of the Committee shall be five (5) members.
3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and which resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
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. Prior to Subcommittee action, the Chairman may recall any referred matter at his discretion.
5. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman, the Vice-President, Secretary, or a Committee member designated by the Chairman shall preside, respectively.
6. Any member or members of the Committee who disagree with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report in writing in accordance with the Rules of the Senate.
7. These rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by a quorum of the Committee in a meeting called by the Chairman.
8. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom the author designates to do so.
9. The Chairman may delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to the hearing.
10. When a bill or resolution is placed on the committee agenda, the principal sponsor shall be notified of the time and place of the meeting.
11. During committee meetings, committee members, staff members, and all persons in the audience shall turn off or place in silent mode all cell phones, pages, and other similar devices.
12. The Chairman shall manage the debate, deliberations, evidence, presentations, and testimony during the course of meetings to best serve the interests of the Committee and the Senate on behalf of the citizens of Georgia.

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor  
Tuesday, February 2, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, February 2, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Sen. David Lucas (26th), Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), and Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) were absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**2021-2022 Insurance and Labor Sub-Committees**

The Chair presented the 2021-2022 Insurance and Labor subcommittees and members.

The Chair announced the Health and Workman's Comp Subcommittee will be chaired by Sen. Ben Watson (1st). Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) and Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) will serve on the subcommittee.

The General Insurance Subcommittee will be chaired by Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th). Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) and Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) will serve on the subcommittee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:03 p.m.

**2021-2022 Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor Rules**

The Chair presented the proposed Rules for 2021-2022.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) who made a motion to adopt the 2021-2022 Rules. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by unanimous vote of 5-0. The Rules appear on the previous page.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Commissioner John King, Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire**

The Chair introduced Commissioner John King, Office of Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire, for the purpose of introducing himself to the committee and the yearly goals.

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor**  
**Tuesday, February 9, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 1:01 p.m.

**SB 43 (Sen. Brass, 28th, LC 46 0367) “Noncovered Eye Care Services Act”; enact**

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

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:05 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:07 p.m.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*  
*Aubrey Villines, GA Optometrist Associations*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*  
*None*

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **SB 43 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0407S)**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 43 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0407S)**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor  
Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**SB 82 (Sen. Au, 48th, LC 46 084) Emergency Medical Services; prudent layperson standard is not affected by the final diagnosis given; clarify**

The Chair recognized Sen. Michelle Au (48th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Au (48th) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:02 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:06 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) for the purpose of presenting the recommendation of the subcommittee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Walker, III (20th) arrived at 1:13 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **SB 82 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0391S)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 82 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0391S).**

**SB 112 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 46 0381) Life Insurance; annual notification to policy owners and requested beneficiaries of the existence of such policies; require**

The Chair indicated that SB 112 would receive a hearing only.

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*  
*Bobby Potter American Council of Life Insurers*

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*  
*None*

**Committee Recommendation: SB 112 (LC 46 0381) No further action taken**

**SB 113 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 46 0383) Life Insurance; life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' life insurance policy locator service; provide**

The Chair indicated that SB 113 would receive a hearing only.

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

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) left the meeting at 1:41 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*  
*None*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*  
*Bobby Potter American Council of Life Insurers*

**Committee Recommendation: SB 113 (46 0383)No further action taken**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor  
Tuesday, February 23, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, February 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) was absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:24 p.m.

**SB 112 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 46 0381) Life Insurance; annual notification to policy owners and requested beneficiaries of the existence of such policies; require**

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

**NOTE:** Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) and Sen. Walker, III (20th) arrived at 1:26 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*

*Vince Lally, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*

*None*

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **SB 112 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0436S)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 112 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0436S).**

**SB 113 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 46 0383) Life Insurance; life insurers' requirement to review the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' life insurance policy locator service; provide**

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

**NOTE:** Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:29 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 113 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0437S)**. Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 113 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0437S).**

**SB 169 (Sen. Walker, III, 20th, LC 44 1619) Bonds; acceptance of electronic signatures and electronic corporate seals on bonds; provide**

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker, III (20th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Walker, III, (20th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **SB 169 Do Pass (LC 44 1619)**. Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 169 DO PASS (LC 44 1619).**

**SB 166 (Sen. Cowsert, 46th, LC 36 4639) Courts; certain procedures for disqualification of jurors; require**

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Walker (20th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Bill Cowsert (46th) for the purpose of speaking to the bill.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*

*None*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*

*Brandon Peak, Butler, Weoten and Peak LLP*

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) who offered an amendment to the bill, where the words “under oath” were added (lines 16-17).

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) made a motion to adopt the amendment. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion to adopt the amendment. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 5-2.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Robertson (29th) voted against the motion.

Sen. Lucas (26th) did not vote for or against the motion.

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **SB 166 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0419S)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-2.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Robertson (29th) voted against the motion.

Sen. Lucas (26th) did not vote for or against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 166 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0419S).**

**SB 191** (Sen. Cowsert, 46th, LC 36 4658) **Motor Vehicles and Traffic; insurance of motor carriers and to causes of actions involving motor carrier and insurance carrier; provisions; change**

The Chair recognized Sen. Cowsert (46th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Cowsert (46th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*

*None*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*

*Brandon Peak, Butler, Weoten and Peak LLP*

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbin (16th) who made a motion that **SB 191 Do Pass (LC 36 4658)**. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 3-4.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), and Sen. Walker, III (20th) voted against the motion.

Sen. Lucas (26th) did not vote for or against the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 191 (LC 36 4658) No further action taken**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor**  
**Wednesday, February 24, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Wednesday, February 24, 2021 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

**SB 80 (Sen. Kirkpatrick, 32nd, LC 46 0587) “Ensuring Transparency in Prior Authorization Act”; enact**

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) presented the bill to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 8:06 a.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) arrived at 8:11 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) for the proposing of presenting the recommendation of the subcommittee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*  
*Jeff Breedlove, Georgia Council of Substance Abuse*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*  
*Jesse Weathington, Georgia Association of Health Plans*  
*Michael Power, Pharmaceutical Care Management Association*

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who offered an amendment to the Bill, where on line 383 the word “or” is added, on line 385 the sentence is ended and lines 386 to 395 are deleted, and on line 465, the number “60” is replaced by the number “30”.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) made a motion to adopt the amendment. Sen. Sims

(12th) seconded the motion to adopt the amendment. The amendment was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **SB 80 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0439S)**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 80 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0439S).**

**SB 156 (Sen. Harbin, 16th, LC 43 5736) Labor and Industrial Relations; appointment, oath, bond, power, duties, and authority of a chief labor officer; provide**

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Sims (12th) who made a motion that **SB 156 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 43 1949S)**. Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: SB 156 DO PASS BY SUBSTITTUTE (LC 43 1949S).**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 8:49 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor  
Tuesday, March 16, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15th) and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 1:04 p.m.

**HB 146 (Rep. Gaines, 117th, LC 36 3525) Public officers and employees; paid parental leave for eligible state employees and eligible local board of education employees; provide**

The Chair recognized Rep. Houston Gaines (117th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gaines (117th) presented the bill to the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*  
*Yosha Dotson, 9to5 Georgia*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*  
*None*

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **HB 146 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 36 4797S)** Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 6-0.

Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 146 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 4797S).**

**Sen. Miller (49th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 146.**

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbin (16th) and Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 1:10 p.m.



**HB 205 (Rep. Williams, 148th, LC 46 0370) Insurance; framework for regulating the offering or issuance of travel insurance; provide**

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 205 Do Pass (LC 46 0370)** Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 205 DO PASS (LC 46 0370).**

**Sen. Brass (28th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 205.**

**HB 509 (Rep. Gaines, 117th, LC 46 0415) Insurance; require certain insurers to make at least one reasonably priced comprehensive major medical health insurance policy available**

The Chair recognized Rep. Gaines (117th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gaines (117th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 509 Do Pass (LC 46 0415)** Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

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

**Committee Recommendation: HB 509 DO PASS (LC 46 0415).**

**Sen. Strickland (17th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 509.**

**HB 241 (Rep. Gambill, 15th, LC 46 0406S) Insurance; revise meaning of property insurance; change parameters under which certain contracts or agreements may be canceled**

The Chair recognized Rep. Matt Gambill (15th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gambill (15th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 241 Do Pass (LC 46 0406S)** Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 241 DO PASS (LC 46 0406S).**

**Sen. Robertson (29th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 241.**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Dean Burke (11th) Chairman

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor  
Tuesday, March 23, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Mezzanine of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio (*Left Early*)  
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

**HB 254 (Rep. Lumsden, 12th, LC 46 0404S) Insurance; Commissioner's enforcement authority with regard to adjusters; increase**

The Chair recognized Rep. Eddie Lumsden (12th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Lumsden (12th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) for the purpose of presenting the recommendation of the subcommittee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **HB 254 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0429S)**. Sen. Harbin (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 254 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0429S).**

**Sen. Robertson (29th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 254.**

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

**HB 532 (Rep. Werkheiser, 157th, LC 36 4737S) Labor, Department of; employment security; change certain provisions**

The Chair recognized Rep. Bill Werkheiser (157th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Werkheiser (157th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) for the purpose of presenting the recommendation of the subcommittee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **HB 532 Do Pass (LC 36 4737S)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 532 DO PASS (LC 36 4737S).**

**Sen. Harbin (16th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 532.**

**HB 454 (Rep. Newton, 123rd, LC 33 8735S) Insurance; certain coverage requirements concerning providers that become out-of-network during a plan year; provide**

The Chair recognized Rep. Mark Newton (123rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Newton (123rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) for the purpose of presenting the recommendation of the subcommittee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 454 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 33 8799S)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Sims (12th) voted in opposition of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 454 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 33 8799S).**

**Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 454.**

**HB 244 (Rep. Hogan, 179th, LC 46 0386) Insurance; flood risk reduction in the enumerated list of county purposes for ad valorem taxes; include**

The Chair recognized Rep. Don Hogan (179th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hogan (179th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:19 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 244 Do Pass (LC 46 0386)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 244 DO PASS (LC 46 0386).**

**Sen. McNeil (3rd) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 244.**

**NOTE:** Sen. Sims (12th) left the meeting at 1:21 p.m.

**HB 303 (Rep. Glanton, 75th, LC 46 0392) Jaida Act; enact**

The Chair recognized Rep. Mike Glanton (75th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Glanton (75th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbin (16th) who offered a substitute for the bill. Sen. Harbin (16th) presented the substitute to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) who made a motion that **HB 303 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 46 0486S)**. Sen. Lucas (26th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Walker, III (20th), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 303 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 46 0486S).**

**Sen. Harbison (15th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 303.**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor**  
**Wednesday, March 24, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 310 of the CLOB. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Dean Burke (11th), Chairman  
Sen. Larry Walker, III (20th), Vice-Chairman  
Sen. Marty Harbin (16th), Secretary  
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)  
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)  
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th), Ex-Officio

**NOTE:** Sen. Ben Watson (1st) was absent from the meeting.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

**[HB 714](#) (Rep. Kelley, 16th, LC 41 3090S) Georgia Civil Practice Act; revise and provide for new requirements**

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

Rep. Kelley (16th) presented the bill to the Committee.

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

**NOTE:** Sen. Harbison (15th) and Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:14 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

*Testimony in Favor of the Bill:*

*Dan Snipes, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association*

*Bobby Potter, State Farm*

*Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:*

*None*

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **HB 714 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 41 3160S)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 8-0.

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd), Sen. Lucas (26th), Sen. Merritt (9th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Walker, III (20th) voted in favor of the motion.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 714 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 41 3160S).**

**Sen. Kennedy (18th) will be the Senate Sponsor of HB 714.**

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) Secretary

/s/ Ryann Miller, Recording Secretary