

**THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL JUDICIARY  
2021 ROSTER**

Sen. Jen Jordan, Chairwoman  
District 6  
301-B Coverdell Legislative Office Building  
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

Sen. Elena Parent, Vice-Chairwoman  
District 42  
1250 Oakdale Road NE  
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Sen. Tonya Anderson, Secretary  
District 43  
P.O. Box 1026  
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Sen. Max Burns  
District 23  
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Sen. Russ Goodman  
District 8  
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Sen. Donzella James  
District 35  
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Sen. Nikki Merritt  
District 9  
1911 Grayson Hwy, Suite 8367  
Grayson GA 30017

Sen. Sheikh Rahman  
District 5  
779 Simon Way  
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Sen. Horacena Tate  
District 38  
121-G State Capitol  
Atlanta, GA 30334

## **THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL JUDICIARY**

### **2021 – 2022 COMMITTEE RULES**

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Each member of the committee should be mindful of the Senate Rules, especially regarding attendance.

1. A Quorum of the Committee shall be 5 members.
2. The Chairwoman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered.
3. The Chairwoman 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 a time as shall be designated by the Chairwoman.
4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairwoman.
5. A bill or resolution will be considered only after presentation by its principal author or other legislator whose name appears first or second on the list of authors or co-sponsors, unless the author or co-sponsor has made other arrangements with the Chairwoman.
6. No member of the committee shall be allowed to vote by proxy.
7. Members may not abstain from voting unless the member or any member of the Senator's immediate family has a direct or pecuniary interest in the result of such vote, which interest is distinct, unique, or peculiar to the Senator or Senator's immediate family.
8. Any member of the Committee who disagrees with the majority report of the Committee shall be privileged to file a minority report if they so desire.
9. These Rules may be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by two thirds of the member of the Committee.
10. Where these Rules are silent on a specific issues, the Rules of the Senate as adopted shall govern.

## MINUTES OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL JUDICIARY

**Tuesday, March 16, 2021**

The Senate Committee on Special Judiciary held a meeting on Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 2:15 p.m. in Room 307 of the Coverdell Legislative Office Building (CLOB). The following committee members were in attendance:

Sen. Jen Jordan (6th), Chairwoman  
Sen. Elena Parent (42nd), Vice-Chairwoman  
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Secretary  
Sen. Max Burns (23rd) (*Arrived Late*)  
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)  
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)  
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) (*Arrived Late*)

**NOTE:** Sen. Donzella James (35th) and Sen. Horacena Tate (38th) were absent.

Chairwoman Jordan (6th) called the meeting to order at 2:23 pm.

The Chair recognized Sen. Parent (42nd) to make a motion to adopt the Rules. Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The Rules were adopted unanimously. A copy of the rules is attached.

### **HB 97 (Rep. Leverett, 33rd, LC 41 2658) Courts; oath for certain clerks of the probate court; require and provide**

The Chair recognized Rep. Rob Leverett (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the HB 97. Rep. Leverett (33rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Parent (42nd), who made a motion that **HB 97 Do Pass (LC 41 2658)**. Sen. Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Committee Recommendation: HB 97 DO PASS (LC 41 2658)**

### **HB 354 (Rep. Williams, 145th, LC 36 4673S) State Board of Cemeterians and Funeral Service; report suspected unlawful activity to the sheriff's office and the Attorney General; require**

The Chair recognized Rep. Rick Williams (145th) for the purpose of presenting a proposed substitute to HB 354. Rep. Williams (145th) presented the proposed substitute to the Committee.

**NOTE:** Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 2:29 pm

**NOTE:** Sen. Burns (23rd) arrived at 2:32 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for debate and amendment.

**NOTE:** Sen. Anderson (43rd) left at 2:47 pm

**NOTE:** Sen. Anderson (43rd) returned at 2:55 pm

The Chair recognized Sen. Parent (42nd) who made a motion **Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Parent (42nd) who made a motion to amend the proposed substitute on lines 42 and again on line 58 by striking 75 days and replacing it with 30 days. Sen. Burns (23rd) seconded the motion.

Sen. Burns (23rd) then offered an amendment to Sen. Parent's (42nd) amendment by changing 30 days to 60 days on lines 42 and 58. Sen. Burns (23rd) seconded the motion. The amendment to the amendment was adopted without objection.

The Chair then recognized Sen. Parent (42nd) who made a motion to further amend the proposed substitute by inserting on lines 42 and 58 "conduct a review of such complaint and". Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair returned to the previous motion to adopt the proposed substitute, now as amended by the committee. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair indicated her preference that the adopted amendments be incorporated in a perfected Committee Substitute.

**Committee Recommendation: HB 354 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 4814S)**

Chairwoman Jordan (6th) adjourned the meeting at 3:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Margaret Haisty, Recording Secretary