

Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor

2021-2022 Roster

Sen. Dean Burke, Chairman

District 11
1608 Pineland Drive
Bainbridge, GA 39819

Sen. David Lucas

District 26
110-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Larry Walker, Vice-Chairman

District 20
1110 Washington Street
Perry, GA 31069

Sen. Nikki Merritt

District 9
319-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

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
Marietta, GA 30062

Sen. Ben Watson, Ex-Officio

District 1
325-A CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

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, pagers, 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, January 25th, 2022

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, January 25th, 2022 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. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) (*Arrived Late*)

NOTE: Sen. Ben Watson (1st) and Sen. David Lucas (26th) were absent.

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

SB 330: (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 43 2085) “Giving the Gift of Life Act”; enact

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

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) and Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Merritt (9th) arrived at 1:06p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Sims (12th) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Will Albers, Kidney Recipient
Mike Lollo, National Kidney Donor Organization
Matt Wain, Emory Healthcare
Christina Klein and Joshua Wolf, Piedmont Healthcare
Frita Fisher, MD, Emory Healthcare
Tiffany McClure, Kidney Donor

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **SB 330 Do Pass (LC 43 2085)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 330 DO PASS (LC 43 2085)

**SB 331: (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 36 4877) “Protecting Georgia Businesses and Workers Act”;
enact**

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 from the Committee.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Ryan Bowersox, Georgia Municipal Association

John Jarrard, American Hotel and Lodging Association

Marshall Guest, Metro Atlanta Chamber

Nathan Humphrey, National Federation of Independent Business

The Chair announced no action would be taken on SB 330 during this meeting.

Committee Recommendation: SB 331 (LC 43 2085) No Action Taken

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Klynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, February 1st, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, February 1st, 2022 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)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

NOTE: Sen. David Lucas (26th) and Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) were absent.

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

NOTE: Sen. Merritt (9th) arrived at 1:03 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 1:04 p.m.

SB 342: (Sen. Kirkpatrick, 32nd, LC 52 0043) “Annual Reporting Regarding Mental Health Parity in Healthcare Plans”, provide.

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Bethany Sherrer, Medical Association of Georgia
Kim Jones, National Alliance on Mental Illness
Jeff Breedlove, Georgia Council on Substance Abuse
Jesse Weathington, Georgia Association of Health Plans
Whitney Griggs, Georgians for a Healthy Future

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 342 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 52 0067S)**. Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 342 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 52 0067S).

SB 341: (Sen. Kirkpatrick, 32nd, LC 52 0011) “Prior Authorization for Medications to Treat Chronic Conditions”, provide.

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Bethany Sherrer, Medical Association of Georgia
Jesse Weathington, Georgia Association of Health Plans
Whitney Griggs, Georgians for a Healthy Future

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **SB 341 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 52 0066S)**. Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 341 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 52 0066S).

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

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

/s/ Klynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Wednesday, February 9th, 2022

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Wednesday, February 9th, 2022 at 8:30 a.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)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) (*Arrived Late*)

NOTE: Sen. David Lucas (26th) was absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 8:33 a.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbin (16th) arrived at 8:34 a.m.

SB 331: (Sen. Albers, 56th LC 36 4877) “Protecting Georgia Businesses and Workers Act”; enact.

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 from the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 8:38 a.m.

NOTE: Sen. Merritt (9th) arrived at 8:43 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) who made a motion that **SB 331 Do Pass (LC 36 5105S)**. Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-3.

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

Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Harbison (15th), and Sen. Merritt (9th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 331 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 5105S).

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 8:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Klynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, March 1st, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 1st, 2022 at 3:00 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. Ed Harbison (15th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) (*Left Early*)

NOTE: Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) was absent.

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

SB 532: (Sen. Jones, 25th LC 52 0092) Back the Blue Fund; establish.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jones (25th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Jones (25th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) arrived at 3:15 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Terry Norris, Georgia Sheriff's Association

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

Committee Recommendation: SB 532 (LC 52 0092) NO ACTION TAKEN

NOTE: Sen. Watson (1st) left at 3:29 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 3:30 p.m.

SB 484: (Sen. Robertson, 29th LC 36 5106) Workers' Compensation; coverage for first responders for post-traumatic stress disorder arising in the course and scope of employment; provide.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Robertson (29th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) and Sen. Sims (12th) left at 3:55 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 4:04 p.m.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Ashley Wilson, Police Officer

Andrew Wilson, Spouse

Chad Bird, First Responder

Butch Ayers, Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police

Dan Kniffen, Georgia Municipal Association

Rep. Greg Kennard (102nd)

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

Committee Recommendation: SB 484 (LC 36 5106) NO ACTION TAKEN

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 4:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Klynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, March 8th, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 at 8:00 a.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)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

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

SB 532: (Sen. Jones, 25th LC 52 0092) Back the Blue Fund; establish.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jones (25th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Jones (25th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 8:07 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **SB 532 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 52 0114S)**. Sen. Walker (20th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 532 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 52 0114S)

SB 602: (Sen. Anavitarte, 31st, LC 52 0113) Insurance; minimum amounts of uninsured and underinsured

The Chair recognized Sen. Jason 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 from the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 8:24 a.m.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

None

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

Dan Snipes, Georgia Trial Lawyers Association

The Chair proposed an amendment on line 27 that would strike “\$15,000” and add “\$100,000”. Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion failed 3-6.

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

Sen. Harbin (16th), Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Harbison (15th), Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Lucas (26th) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Walker (20th) who made a motion to **TABLE SB 602 (LC 52 0113)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

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

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

Committee Recommendation: SB 602 (LC 52 0113) No Further Action Taken

SB 605: (Sen. Burke, 11th LC 36 5172) Employment Security; certain nonprofit organizations have the option of making installment payments to finance unemployment benefits paid to its employees for certain time periods during the COVID-19 public health emergency; provide

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) assumed the Chair.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Burke (11th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burke (11th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Lucas (26th) who made a motion that **SB 605 Do Pass By Substitute (LC 36 5252S)**. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 605 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 5252S)

NOTE: Sen. Burke (11th) resumed the Chair.

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 8:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Klynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, March 8th, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 8th, 2022 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)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st) (*Arrived Late*)

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

SB 487: (Sen. McNeill, 3rd, LC 52 0086) Insurance; diagnostic breast examinations shall not be treated less favorably than screening mammography for breast cancer with respect to cost-sharing requirements; provide.

The Chair recognized Sen. Sheila McNeill (3rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. McNeill (3rd) presented the bill to the Committee along with Sen. Michael “Doc” Rhett (33rd).

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:02 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 487 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 52 0119S)**. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 5-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 487 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 52 0119S)

SB 566: (Sen. Burke, 11th LC 52 0101) Surprise Billing Consumer Protection Act; a medical or traumatic condition includes a mental health condition or substance use disorder; emergency medical services include post-stabilization services; clarify.

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) assumed the Chair.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Burke (11th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burke (11th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Merritt (9th) and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 1:04 p.m.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **SB 566 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 52 0115S)**. Sen. Sims (12th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

Committee Recommendation: SB 566 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 52 0115S)

NOTE: Sen. Burke (11th) resumed the Chair.

SB 468: (Sen. Jackson, 41st, LC 39 3203) Georgia State Indemnification Fund; death by suicide of a public safety officer in certain instances be considered a death in the line of duty for purposes of indemnification; provide.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Jackson (41st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 468 Do Pass (LC 39 3203)**. Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0.

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

Committee Recommendation: SB 468 DO PASS (LC 39 3203)

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Kylynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Wednesday, March 16th, 2022

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Wednesday, March 16th, 2022 at 11:00 a.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 (*Left Early*)
Sen. Ed Harbison (15th)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
Sen. David Lucas (26th)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 11:06 a.m.

NOTE: Sen. Marty Harbin (16th) was absent.

[HB 1021](#): (Rep. Lumsden, 12th, LC 52 0044) Insurance; minimum nonforfeiture interest rate for individual deferred annuities; decrease

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 opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 1021 Do Pass (LC 52 0044)**. Sen. Walker (20nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 6-0. Sen. Burke (11th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1021 DO PASS (LC 52 0044)

[HB 1195](#): (Rep. Lumsden, 12th, LC 52 0061) Local government; audits of funds may be conducted in accordance with statutory accounting principles; provide

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

NOTE: Sen. Merritt (9th) arrived at 11:13 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **HB 1195 Do Pass (LC 52 0061)** Sen. Lucas (26th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0. Sen. Walker (20th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1195 DO PASS (LC 52 0061)

HB 969: (Rep. Smith, 18th, LC 52 0058) Insurance; update regulation of company holding systems

The Chair recognized Rep. Tyler Paul Smith (18th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (18th) presented the bill to the Committee

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill

Scott Sanders, Georgia Insurance, Fire and Safety Department

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 969 Do Pass (LC 52 0058)** Sen. Lucas (26th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0. Sen. Burke (11th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 969 DO PASS (LC 52 0058)

HB 1059: (Rep. Gambill, 15th, LC 52 0095S) Insurance; unfair trade practices and unlawful inducements; provide for exclusions

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

NOTE: Sen. Burke (11th) left at 11:23 a.m. and Sen. Walker (20th) assumed the Chair.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Vice-Chair recognized Sen. Harbison (15th) who made a motion that **HB 1059 Do Pass (LC 52 0095S)** Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 6-0. Sen. Walker (20th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1059 DO PASS (LC 52 0095S)

HB 1308: (Rep. Williams, 148th, LC 52 0093S) Insurance; allow plan sponsor to consent on behalf of an enrollee to electronic delivery of all communication

The Vice-Chair recognized Rep. Noel Williams (148th) for the purpose of presenting the bill.

Rep. Williams (148th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Vice-Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

NOTE: Sen. Burke (11th) returned at 11:26 a.m. and resumed the Chair.

The Chair recognized Sen. Lucas (26th) who made a motion that **HB 1308 Do Pass (LC 52 0093S)** Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0. Sen. Walker (20th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1308 DO PASS (LC 52 0093S)

HB 1324: (Rep. Camp, 131st, LC 52 0097S) Health and insurance; clarify that the prudent layperson standard is not affected by the diagnoses given

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) left at 11:28 a.m.

The Chair recognized Rep. Beth Camp (131st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Camp (131st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 11:30 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **HB 1324 Do Pass (LC 52 0097S)** Sen. Merritt (9th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 7-0. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1324 DO PASS (LC 52 0097S)

HB 1409: (Rep. Werkheiser, 157th, LC 36 5168) Labor and industrial relations; workers' compensation benefits; 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 opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill

Judge Ben Benson

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill

Zack Hendon, Worker's Comp Claimants Lawyers

Robert Bourne, Georgia Injured Workers Advocates

The Chair announced no action would be taken on this bill during this meeting.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1409 (LC 36 5168) No Action Taken

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 11:47 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Kylynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 22nd, 2022 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) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Freddie Powell Sims (12th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

Chairman Burke (11th) called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

[HB 1409:](#) (Rep. Werkheiser, 157th, LC 36 5168) Labor and industrial relations; workers' compensation benefits; 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 opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) who made a motion that **HB 1409 Do Pass (LC 36 5168)** Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 4-0. Sen. Kirkpatrick (32nd) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1409 DO PASS (LC 36 5168)

[HB 1276:](#) (Rep. Hawkins, 27th, LC 52 0126S) Community Health, Department of; statistical reports data relating to state health plans be posted on department website; require

The Chair recognized Rep. Lee Hawkins (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Hawkins (27th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 1:07 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Merritt (9th) who made a motion that **HB 1276 Do Pass (LC 52 0126S)** Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 5-0. Sen. Walker (20th) is the Senate Sponsor.

NOTE: Sen. Sims (12th), Sen. Lucas (26th), and Sen. Walker (20th) arrived at 1:11 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1276 DO PASS (LC 52 0126S)

HB 1297: (Rep. Gambill, 15th, LC 52 0107S) Insurance; discount for property owners who build a new property that better resists tornado and catastrophic windstorm events; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Matt Gambill (15th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gambill (15th) presented the bill to the Committee with Jimmy Cotty, from Georgia Ready Mixed Concrete Association.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:13 p.m.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill:

Bobby Potter, State Farm Insurance Company

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill:

None

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Watson (1st) who made a motion that **HB 1297 Do Pass (LC 52 0107S)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0. Sen. Robertson (29th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1297 DO PASS (LC 52 0107S)

HB 733: (Rep. Smith, 18th, LC 52 0109S) Insurance; guaranteed asset protection waiver; revise definition

The Chair recognized Rep. Tyler Paul Smith (18th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (18th) presented the bill to the Committee

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Merritt (9th) who made a motion that **HB 733 Do Pass (LC 52 0109S)** Sen. Harbin (16th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 9-0. Sen. Anavitarte (31st) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 733 DO PASS (LC 52 0109S)

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Kylynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary

**Minutes of the Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor
Tuesday, March 29th, 2022**

The Senate Committee on Insurance and Labor met on Tuesday, March 29th, 2022 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) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kay Kirkpatrick (32nd)
Sen. David Lucas (26th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th)
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st)

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

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

HB 389: (Rep. Jones, 25th, LC 36 5153S) Employment security; change definition of employment to include services performed by an individual for wages

The Chair recognized Rep. Todd Jones (25th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Jones (25th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 1:10 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Lucas (26th) arrived at 1:12 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Walker (20th) arrived at 1:18 p.m.

Testimony in Favor of the Bill

Brett Hulme, Southeastern Carpenters Regional Council

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill

None

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

NOTE: Sen. Harbison (15th) arrived at 1:24 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Lucas (26th) who made a motion that **HB 389 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 5302S)** Sen. Watson (1st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0. Sen. Strickland (17th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 389 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 5302S)

HB 1045: (Rep. Gaines, 117th, LC 36 0725) Workers compensation; dissolution of Subsequent Injury Trust Fund; extend time period

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

Mike Pentecost, Subsequent Injury Trust Fund
Mike Coan, Deputy Commissioner of Labor

Testimony in Opposition to the Bill

None

The Chair opened the floor for questions from the Committee and the public.

The Chair recognized Sen. Harbin (16th) who made a motion that **HB 1045 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 36 5297S)** Sen. Harbison (15th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, by a vote of 8-0. Sen. Harbin (16th) will be the Senate Sponsor.

Committee Recommendation: HB 1045 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 36 5297S)

Chairman Burke (11th) adjourned the meeting at 1:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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

/s/ Kylynn Gallagher, Recording Secretary