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## **REPORT OF THE SENATE STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATE BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS, AND COMMITTEES**

### **MEMBERS**

**Senator Dan Moody**  
**District 56**  
**Chairman**

**Senator George Hooks**  
**District 14**

**Senator Mitch Seabaugh**  
**District 28**

**December 2007**

# THE SENATE STUDY COMMITTEE ON STATE BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AUTHORITIES, COUNCILS, AND COMMITTEES

## **Creation and Duties**

The Senate Study Committee on State Boards, Commissions, Authorities, Councils, and Committees was created by the State Senate pursuant to Senate Resolution 340. The Study Committee was charged with increasing efficiency, using taxpayer's dollars effectively, and ensuring that boards, commissions, authorities, councils, and committees are performing their assigned tasks.

Senator Dan Moody was appointed by Lieutenant Governor Casey Cagle as the Committee's Chairman and other legislative members appointed to the Committee were Senator George Hooks and Senator Mitch Seabaugh.

The Committee held one public meeting on November 6, 2007.

## **Committee Focus**

Between July and November 2007, Senator Moody began preliminary research and analysis of over 500 state-created boards, commissions, authorities, councils, and committees with the assistance of the Senate Research Office. The Committee focused only on entities created statutorily. The primary working document for research and analysis was a report submitted by the Office of Planning and Budget, entitled *Boards and Commissions Database*. This document provided an outline in which each entity was researched, discussed, and analyzed for potential purging from the Code. The Committee identified a list of entities that needed more evaluation from the working document.

Once each entity was identified and attached to a specific state agency, a survey for additional information was sent to the agency for completion. The survey (Appendix A) included questions on the following topics:

1. General contact information;
2. The entity's mission statement and when it was created;
3. The members of the entity's board;
4. The frequency of the entity's meetings; and
5. Budget and expenditure information for FY 2006 and 2007.

After the Committee received the completed survey from a state agency, a summary of the information was added to an Access database. (Appendix B)

## **Committee Recommendations**

The Committee met on November 6, 2007 and reviewed the research results from the surveys. From the research presented, the Committee recommends that several statutorily created entities be abolished.

The Committee also expressed its concern that there is presently no mechanism available to provide for an ongoing update on state boards, commissions, authorities, councils, and committees. The Committee recommends that this responsibility be assigned to the Senate Government Oversight Committee. The Study Committee also recommends state agencies periodically update information on any state boards, commissions, authorities, councils, and committees through the Senate Government Oversight Committee.

The following list includes those entities that are no longer active and/or have been determined as not fulfilling the original purpose or achieving the entity's mission.

<b><u>Purged Entities (Potential)</u></b>	<b><u>Code</u></b>
Closing the Achievement Gap Commission	20-2-286
Commission on the Georgia Health Insurance Risk Pool	33-29A-30
Coordinate Committee for Exceptional Individuals	20-2-301
Education Information Steering Council	20-2-320
Pacific White Shrimp Development Advisory Council	2-15-3
Power Alley Development Authority	12-3-680
State Wastewater Privatization Oversight Committee	12-5-23.3
Tobacco Advisory Board	10-4-110
Business Development Advisory Council Small and Minority	50-5-120
Georgia Distance Learning and Telemedicine Network Board	50-5-196
Georgia Technology Authority Overview Committee	50-25-15
Kinchafoonee Lake Authority	12-3-361
Lake Sidney Lanier Watershed Governance Council	Local Legislation
Natural Gas Consumer Education Advisory Board	40-4-160.4
Board of Directors of Center for Trade and Technology Transfer	20-3-84
Georgia Institute for Community Business Development	50-30-1

**2007 Survey  
Appendix A**

**State Authorities, Boards, Committees, Commissions, &  
Councils**

Entity: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
Physical Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

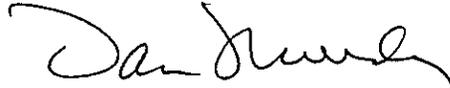
1. What is the entity's mission and responsibilities?
2. When was it created?
3. Who are the current members of the entity?
4. How many vacancies does the entity have compared with its allowable membership?
5. When did the entity meet in FY 2006 & FY 2007 and who attended?
6. What is the entity's FY 2008 budget?
7. What were the entity's expenditures for FY 2007? FY2006?

Please return this information to Jeff Walker (404-656-0015) at [jeff.walker@senate.ga.gov](mailto:jeff.walker@senate.ga.gov) or fax it to him at 404-657-0929.



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