

Senate Chamber, Atlanta, Georgia
Monday, February 2, 2009
Eleventh Legislative Day

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment at 1:00 p.m. today and was called to order by the President.

Senator Balfour of the 9th reported that the Journal of the previous legislative day had been read and found to be correct.

By unanimous consent, the reading of the Journal was dispensed with.

The Journal was confirmed.

The following Senate legislation was introduced, read the first time and referred to committee:

SB 79. By Senators Harp of the 29th, Unterman of the 45th, Williams of the 19th, Hamrick of the 30th, Adelman of the 42nd and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to child abuse and deprivation records, so as to define a certain term; to provide for access by certain governmental entities and certain persons to records concerning reports of child abuse; to provide that certain records relating to a child fatality or near fatality shall not be confidential; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

SB 80. By Senators Bulloch of the 11th, Crosby of the 13th, Hooks of the 14th, Tolleson of the 20th, Hudgens of the 47th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 26 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to adulteration and misbranding of food, so as to change certain provisions relating to prohibited acts; to provide requirements for testing of samples or specimens of foods by food sales establishments for the presence of poisonous or deleterious substances or other contaminants rendering such foods injurious to health or otherwise unfit for consumption; to provide for rules and regulations; to change certain provisions relating to right of entry in food establishments and transport vehicles and examination of samples obtained; to provide for inspection of records; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee.

SB 81. By Senators Unterman of the 45th, Chance of the 16th and Staton of the 18th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 5 of Chapter 12 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to trial juries, so as to provide that members of an electric membership corporation shall be qualified to serve as a juror or grand juror in cases in which the electric membership corporation is a party or is interested; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; for other purposes.

Referred to the Judiciary Committee.

SB 82. By Senators Unterman of the 45th, Chance of the 16th and Staton of the 18th:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Article 14 of Chapter 1 of Title 10 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to secondary metals recyclers, so as to change provisions relating to transaction records; to provide for transmission of transaction records to the applicable sheriff's department; to regulate payments to persons selling copper items to secondary metals recyclers; to provide for supervision of secondary metals recyclers by counties, municipal corporations, or consolidated governments; to change provisions relating to the superseding nature of the article; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee.

SB 83. By Senators Rogers of the 21st, Williams of the 19th, Chance of the 16th, Pearson of the 51st, Hill of the 4th and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Part 1 of Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to tax exemptions, so as to increase the amount of the state-wide homestead exemption from all ad valorem taxation for state, county, and school purposes from \$2,000.00 to \$4,000.00 with automatic future adjustments; to specify the terms and conditions of the exemption and the procedures relating thereto; to provide for applicability; to provide for a special election; to provide for automatic repeal under certain circumstances; to provide for effective dates; to provide for applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Finance Committee.

SB 84. By Senators Heath of the 31st, Williams of the 19th, Cowser of the 46th, Rogers of the 21st, Johnson of the 1st and others:

A BILL to be entitled an Act to amend Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elementary and secondary education, so as to revise provisions relating to eligibility for election as a local board of

education member; to provide for legislative findings; to limit the size of local boards of education; to revise provisions relating to per diem and expenses of local board of education members; to revise certain provisions relating to the secretary of local boards of education; to provide for the fundamental roles of local boards of education and local school superintendents; to prohibit certain conflicts of interest of board members; to provide for a code of ethics for local board of education members; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Education and Youth Committee.

SR 117. By Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Stoner of the 6th, Seay of the 34th, Staton of the 18th, Reed of the 35th and others:

A RESOLUTION urging the Georgia Department of Transportation to build a maglev train connecting Hartsfield-Jackson Airport in Atlanta along Interstate 75 with the Chattanooga Municipal Airport (Lovell Field), to be known as the "The Plane Train"; and for other purposes.

Referred to the Transportation Committee.

The following legislation was read the second time:

SB 8 SB 39 SB 42 SB 61 SB 62 SR 1

Senator Johnson of the 1st asked unanimous consent that the call of the roll be dispensed with. The consent was granted, and the roll call was dispensed with.

The members pledged allegiance to the flag.

Senator Mullis of the 53rd introduced the chaplain of the day, Dr. Steve Anthony of Rock Spring, Georgia, who offered scripture reading and prayer.

Senator Chance of the 16th introduced the doctor of the day, Dr. Robert J. Cox.

The following resolutions were read and adopted:

SR 116. By Senators Adelman of the 42nd and Rogers of the 21st:

A RESOLUTION congratulating Casy Elyse Walker, Miss Cherokee County 2009; and for other purposes.

SR 119. By Senator Unterman of the 45th:

A RESOLUTION recognizing the contributions of senior Georgians and declaring the week of February 24, 2009, as Senior Week at the Capitol; and for other purposes.

SR 120. By Senator Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION commending Miss Chasity Hardman on placing as first runner-up in the Miss America Pageant; and for other purposes.

SR 121. By Senator Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION honoring and celebrating the 80th birthday of Mrs. Annie Carter; and for other purposes.

SR 122. By Senator Harbison of the 15th:

A RESOLUTION honoring the life and memory of Reverend Jimmie Jakes, Sr.; and for other purposes.

Senator Johnson of the 1st asked unanimous consent that the following resolution be withdrawn from the Senate Ethics Committee and committed to the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee:

SR 108. By Senators Johnson of the 1st, Rogers of the 21st, Williams of the 19th, Thompson of the 33rd, Tolleson of the 20th and others:

A RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that where local, state, or federal law requires elections for public office or public votes on initiatives or referenda, or designations or authorizations of employee representation, the right of individuals to vote by secret ballot shall be guaranteed; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

The consent was granted, and SR 108 was committed to the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee.

Senator Rogers of the 21st moved that the Senate adjourn until 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, February 3, 2009.

The motion prevailed, and the President announced the Senate adjourned at 1:50 p.m.