THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
2025- 2026 ROSTER

Sen. John Albers, Chairman
District 56
421-C State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Randy Robertson, Vice-Chairman
District 29
P.O. Box 62
Cataula, GA 31804

Sen. Rick Williams, Secretary
District 25
1670 N. Jefferson Street
Milledgeville, GA 31061

Sen. Timothy Bearden, Ex-Officio
District 30
304-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Russ Goodman
District 8
9677 Frank S. Sessoms Memorial Highway
Homerville, GA 31634

Sen. Sonya Halpern, Ex-Officio
District 39
P.O. Box 13142
Atlanta, GA 30324

Sen. Kim Jackson
District 41
P.O. Box 1411
Pine Lake, GA 30072

Sen. Harold Jones II
District 22
437 Walker Street
Augusta, GA 30901

Sen. Chuck Payne, Ex-Officio
District 54
P.O. Box 1074
Dalton, GA 30722

Sen. Brian Strickland, Ex-Officio
District 42
P.O. Box 1895
McDonough, GA 30253

Sen. Kenya Wicks
District 34
P.O. Box 842
Fayetteville, GA 30214

SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY
2025-2026 RULES

1. A quorum of the Committee shall be five (5) members.

2. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chairman.

3. The Chairman shall determine which bills and resolutions are to be considered and the order in which said measures are considered; the Chairman shall have the authority to call a bill, resolution, substitute, or amendment for debate and explanation only.

4. The Chairman may appoint subcommittees and officers of subcommittees and, at the discretion of the Chairman, may refer any matter to a subcommittee. 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; but no measure will be returned to the full Senate except after consideration by the full Committee.

5. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after the presentation by its principal author or a legislator whom he or she designates to do so. In the event that more than one member of the General Assembly has signed a measure, the principal author shall be the one whose name appeared first in the list of authors.

6. Public comments may be heard on any bill before the Committee at the discretion of the Chairman and time limits on those comments will be determined as circumstances dictate.

7. During Committee meetings, Committee members and those in the audience shall turn off or place in silent mode all cell phones and other similar devices.

8. The Chairman reserves the right to delay action on substitutes and amendments not provided to the Chairman at least 24 hours prior to hearing.

9. 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, setting forth concise reasons for their dissent.

10. The Chairman may present to the Committee a proposed change in these rules at any time. Any other member proposing a change in these rules shall provide written notice of the proposed change to the Chairman at least 72 hours before presenting any proposed change to the Committee. These rules may only be amended upon a motion duly made and subsequently approved by a quorum of the Committee, in a meeting called by the Chairman.

11. The Rules of the Senate shall prevail in all matters not covered by these Committee Rules.

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, February 3, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, February 3, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early)*
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Strickland (42nd) arrived at 1:03 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jones (22nd) arrived 1:06 p.m.

The Chair introduced the Committee Rules for the 2025-2026 Legislative Session.

Sen. Halpern (39th) made a motion to **Amend** the rules clarifying the change of quorum to "five". Sen. Robertson (29th) made a motion **Do Pass.** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motioned passed unanimously. A copy of the adopted rules is attached to these minutes.

The Chair presented the Fulton County Final Report to the Committee for discussion.

Sen. Halpern (39th) made a motion to **Amend** the report by striking recommendation Number 2 regarding the transfer of the Atlanta Detention Center. Sen. Jackson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion failed by a vote of 4-6.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (41st), Sen. Jones (22nd), and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Williams (25th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), Sen. Payne (54th), and Sen. Strickland (42nd) voted against the motion.

Sen. Robertson (29th) made a motion to **Adopt** the Fulton County Final Report in full. Sen. Payne (54th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

SB 7 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 47 3188) Jails; certain municipal corporations make municipal detention facilities or jails available for use by a sheriff

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
None

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
Bob Ellis Fulton Commissioner
Dick Anderson Fulton County Manager

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Elder Dancy Interim Chief of Atlanta

Committee Recommendation: SB 7 (LC 47 3188) No action taken

NOTE: Sen. Strickland (42nd) left at 1:56 p.m.

SB 21 (Sen. Tillery, 19th, 49 2106) Local Governments; violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies; waive sovereign and governmental immunities

The Chair recognized Sen. Tillery (19th) to speak to the bill. Sen Tillery (19th) presented the bill to the Committee.

Committee Recommendation: SB 21 (49 2106) No action taken

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, February 5, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*) (*Left Early*)
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd) was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

SB 21 (Sen. Tillery, 19th, LC 49 2106) Local governments; violation of the prohibition on immigration sanctuary policies; waive sovereign and governmental immunities

The Chair recognized Sen. Blake Tillery (19th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Tillery (19th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Strickland (42nd) arrived at 1:05 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) arrived at 1:06 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Halpern (39th) arrived at 1:09 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Mack Parnell, GA Faith and Freedom Coalition

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
DJ Waller, GMA
Todd Edwards, ACCG
Mike Mitchell, GSA
Stephanie Tanner, GSBA

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Bez Rengifo, Latino Caucus
Megan Gordon, CAIR – GA

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 21 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 57 0224S).** Sen Bearden (30th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-3.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), Sen. Payne (54th), and Sen. Strickland (42nd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (41st), and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 21 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 57 0224S)

SB 64 (Sen. Dixon, 45th, LC 55 0433) Local Government and State Government; prohibit

The Chair recognized Sen. Clint Dixon (45th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Dixon (45th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) who made a motion that **SB 64 Do Pass (LC 55 0433).** Sen Payne (54th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Payne (54th), Sen. Strickland (42nd), and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Jackson (41st) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 64 DO PASS (LC 55 0433)

SB 7 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 47 3188) Jails; certain municipal corporations make municipal detention facilities or jails available for use by a sheriff; require

NOTE: Sen. Strickland (42nd) left at 1:43 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor to the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Patrick Labat, Fulton County Sheriff's Office

NOTE: Sen. Williams (25th) arrived at 2:05 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) left at 2:06 p.m.

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Cheryl Ringer, Atlanta Law Department
DJ Waller, GMA
Jim Thornton, GMA
Blake Feldman, Southern Center for Human Rights

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SB 7 Do Pass (LC 47 3188).** Sen Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-2.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Williams (25th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), and Sen. Payne (54th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th) and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 7 DO PASS (LC 47 3188)

SB 84 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 39 4560) Special License Plates; specialty license plate honoring the Shepherd Center; establish

The Chair (56th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Abigail Garcia, Shepherd Center

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Halpern (39th) who made a motion that **SB 84 Do Pass**. Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking "July 1, 2025" on line 20 and replacing with "January 1, 2026". Sen. Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called for a vote on the underlying motion **SB 84 Do Pass by Substitute**. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 84 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 57 0215S)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, February 10, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, February 10, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) left at 1:02 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Robertson (29th) returned at 1:03 p.m.

SB 76 (Sen. Echols, 49th, LC 39 4441) License Plates; specialty license plate benefitting the Georgia Veterans Service Foundation; establish

The Chair recognized Sen. Drew Echols (49th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Echols (49th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) who made a motion that **SB 76 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4593S).** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 76 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 39 4593S)

NOTE: Sen. Bearden (30th) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

SB 99 (Sen. Robertson, 29th, LC 39 4562) Crimes and Offenses; definition of law enforcement officer; 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 to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Michael Callahan, FOP

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Williams (25th) who made a motion that **SB 99 Do Pass.** Sen. Payne (54th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking lines 19-22. Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called for a vote on the underlying motion **SB 99 Do Pass by Substitute.** The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 99 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 4596S)

SB 102 (Sen. Robertson, 29th, LC 49 2192) Dogfighting; revise provisions

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

NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) arrived at 1:15 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
Jessica Rock, PAC

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson (41st) who made a motion that **SB 102 Do Pass.** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion to **Amend** by adding a period after "five years" on line 47 and then striking the rest of lines 47-49. Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called for a vote on the underlying motion **SB 102 Do Pass by Substitute**. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 102 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 4595S)

SB 75 (Sen. Burns, 23rd, LC 39 4505) Speed Detection Devices and Red Light Cameras; standards for signs warning of a reduced speed limit in a school zone and signs warning of the use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Max Burns (23rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burns (23rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Ashley Rose-Toomer, Give School Kids a Brake

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
Bob Dallas, Former Governor's Office Highway Safety

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Ray Khalfani, GBPI

Committee Recommendation: SB 75 (LC 39 4505) No action taken

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, February 19, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th) *(Left Early)*
Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th) (*Arrived Late*)

NOTE: Sen. Strickland (42nd) was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Bearden (30th) arrived at 1:06 p.m.

SB 160 (Sen. Kirkpatrick, 32nd, LC 39 4601) Reckless Stunt Driving; a motor vehicle involved in a second offense of reckless stunt driving; replace the forfeiture penalty

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

NOTE: Sen. Wicks (34th) arrived at 1:07 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) arrived at 1:09 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Payne (54th) who made a motion that **SB 160 Do Pass (LC 39 4601).** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 160 DO PASS (LC 39 4601)

SB 75 (Sen. Burns, 23rd, LC 39 4505) Speed Detection Devices and Red Light Cameras; standards for signs warning of a reduced speed limit in a school zone and signs warning of the use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Max Burns (23rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burns (23rd) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair presented the 2024-2025 Public Safety Subcommittees and members.

Chairman Albers (56th) appointed Sen. Robertson (29th) as Chair of the **First Responders Subcommittee**, and appointed Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Jackson (41st), and Sen. Wicks (34th) as members of the Subcommittee.

Chairman Albers (56th) appointed Sen. Bearden (30th) as Chair of the **General Welfare and Safety Subcommittee**, and appointed Sen. Albers (56th), Sen. Williams (25th), Sen. Jones (22nd), and Sen. Payne (54th) as members of the Subcommittee.

The Chair assigned SB 75 to the First Responders Subcommittee.

Committee Recommendation: SB 75 (LC 39 4505) Assigned to Subcommittee

SB 116 (Sen. Bearden, 30th, LC 39 4563) DNA Sampling; the collection of DNA samples from any individual in a detention facility charged with a misdemeanor or felony who is subject to an immigration detainer notice; require

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Bearden (30th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Goodman (8th) left at 1:43 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
Mike Mitchell, GA Sheriff's Association

The Chair recognized Sen. Payne (54th) who made a motion that **SB 116 Do Pass (LC 39 4563)**. Sen. Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-3.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Williams (25th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Jones (22nd), and Sen. Payne (54th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Halpern (39th), Sen. Jackson (41st), and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 116 DO PASS (LC 39 4563)

The Chair recognized the Georgia World Congress Center Authority for a presentation. Lindsey Strickland, Joe McKinney, and Paul Guerrucci spoke to the Committee.

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, February 24, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Sen. Kim Jackson (41st), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

SB 185 (Sen. Robertson, 29th, LC 39 4625) Correctional Institutions of State and Counties; use of state funds or resources for certain treatments for state inmates; prohibit

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 to the public. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
None

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Amanda Kay Seals, Bondurant Mixson & Elmore
Mark Spencer, Private Citizen
Isabel Otero, SPLC
Representative Park Cannon, Georgia Assembly
Chanel Hailey, Georgia Equality
Brook Mels, Private Citizen
Anna Delgado, Private Citizen

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) who made a motion that **SB 185 Do Pass (LC 39 4625).** Sen. Payne (54th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 5-2.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Williams (25th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), and Sen. Payne (54th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Jones (22nd) and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 185 DO PASS (LC 39 4625)

SB 147 (Sen. Rhett, 33rd, LC 48 1463) Correctional Institutions of State and Counties; consent for the release of certain criminal history, vocational, and educational information for inmates upon release; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Michael "Doc" Rhett (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Rhett (33rd) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jones (22nd) who made a motion that **SB 147 Do Pass (LC 48 1463)**. Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 147 DO PASS (LC 48 1463)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 2:17 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Subcommittee on First Responders
Tuesday, February 25, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety's Subcommittee on First Responders met on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. in Mezzanine 1 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Chairman
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th)
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. John Albers (56th) and Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) were absent.

Chairman Robertson (29th) called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Patty Garret, Decatur Mayor, and Scott Richards, Decatur Police Chief
Mark Frasier, Blue Line Solutions
Eric Weiss, Hamilton Police Chief
Chuck Donald, Red Speed
Scott Freeman, Conyers Police Chief
Matthew Raltson, Better Mobility
Robert Dallas, Blue Line Solutions

Chairman Robertson (29th) adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, March 3, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, March 3, 2025 at 7:30 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary, Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Sen. Kim Jackson (41st), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 7:27 a.m.

SB 291 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 39 4643) Special License Plates; establish an "America First" specialty license plate

The Chair recognized Sen. Steve Gooch (51st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Gooch (51st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) who made a motion that **SB 291 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4711S).** Sen Robertson (29th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 291 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 39 4711S)

SB 264 (Sen. Goodman, 8th, LC 56 0344) Emergency Management; creation of the Georgia Resilience Office under the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Goodman (8th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony neutral to the Bill:
Anna Burton, GEMA

The Chair recognized Sen. Payne (54th) who made a motion that **SB 264 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 56 0360S).** Sen. Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 264 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 56 0360S)

SR 282 (Sen. Bearden, 30th, LC 39 4680) Joint Study Committee on Funding for Next Generation 9-1-1 Sustainability; create

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) for the purpose of presenting the resolution. Sen. Bearden (30th) presented the resolution to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **SR 282 Do Pass (LC 39 4680).** Sen Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SR 282 DO PASS (LC 39 4680)

SB 75 (Sen. Burns, 23rd, LC 39 4505) Speed Detection Devices and Red Light Cameras; standards for signs warning of a reduced speed limit in a school zone and signs warning of the use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Max Burns (23rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Burns (23rd) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) who made a motion that **SB 75 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4713S).** Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 3-2.

Sen. Goodman (8th), Sen. Payne (54th), and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Robertson (29th) and Sen. Bearden (30th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 75 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 39 4713S)

SR 216 (Sen. Parent, 44th, LC 39 4571) Senate Study Committee on Vulnerable Roadway Users; create

The Chair recognized Sen. Elena Parent (44th) for the purpose of presenting the resolution. Sen. Parent (44th) presented the resolution and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Resolution:
Veronica Watts, private citizen

Testimony in opposition to the Resolution:
None

NOTE: Sen. Jones (22nd) arrived at 7:36 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Wicks (34th) who made a motion that **SR 216 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4701S)**. Sen. Jones (22nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SR 216 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUE (LC 39 4701S)

SB 293 (Sen. Anderson, 24th, LC 39 4673) License Plates for Certain Veterans; the number of free license plates issued to certain veterans; increase

The Chair recognized Sen. Anderson (24th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Anderson (24th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Payne (54th) who made a motion that **SB 293 Do Pass (LC 39 4673)** Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 293 DO PASS (LC 39 4673)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 7:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, March 10, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, March 10, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Sen. Kim Jackson (41st), Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:27 p.m.

The Chair assigned **HB 61** and **HB 225** to the **First Responders Subcommittee.**

HB 423 (Rep. Wade, 9th, LC 56 0308) Emergency telephone number 9-1-1 system; Next Generation 9-1-1 systems and services; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Will Wade (9th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Wade (9th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Halpern (39th) arrived at 1:31 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Payne (54th) arrived at 1:32 p.m.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Aleisha Rucker-Wright, GEMA
Dante Handel, ACCG
Josh Lamb, GEMA

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **HB 423 Do Pass (LC 56 0308).** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 423 DO PASS (LC 56 0308)

Chairman Albers (56th) recognized and honored the Fraternal Order of Police.

HB 296 (Rep. Gaines, 120th, LC 39 4667S) Motor vehicles; presentation of a driver's license in a certain electronic format; provisions

The Chair recognized Rep. Houston Gaines (120th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Gaines (120th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) who made a motion that **HB 296 Do Pass (LC 39 4667S)**. Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 296 DO PASS (LC 39 4667S)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)

NOTE: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary, Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

NOTE: Sen. Goodman (8th) arrived at 1:01 p.m.

HB 549 (Rep. Seabaugh, 34th, LC 39 4641) Peace officers; extend time frame for which reimbursement of total training expenses by a subsequent employer may be sought

The Chair recognized Rep. Devan Seabaugh (34th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Seabaugh (34th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Charles Clay, GA Police Association

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) who made a motion that **HB 549 Do Pass (LC 39 4641).** Sen. Jackson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 549 DO PASS (LC 39 4641)

HB 283 (Rep. Neal, 79th, LC 48 1375) Motor vehicles; issuance of a refusal to sign citation; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Yasmin Neal (79th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Neal (79th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Charles Clay, GA Police Association

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson (41st) who made a motion that **HB 283 Do Pass (LC 48 1375).** Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 283 DO PASS (LC 48 1375)

HB 494 (Rep. McClain, 109th, LC 39 4607) Motor vehicles; require mopeds to be covered by a form of minimum financial responsibility for accident damages

The Chair presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Goodman (8th) left at 1:14 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Goodman (8th) returned at 1:17 p.m.

The Chair recognized Rep. Dewey McClain (109th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. McClain (109th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Wicks (34th) who made a motion that **HB 494 Do Pass (LC 39 4607).** Sen. Jackson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 494 DO PASS (LC 39 4607)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 1:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th) *(Left Early)*

NOTE: Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman, Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m.

HB 208 (Rep. Smith, 70th, LC 39 4657S) Special license plates; support state parks and historic sites; establish

The Chair recognized Rep. Lynn Smith (70th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (70th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Bearden (30th) arrived at 1:08 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Jackson (41st) who made a motion that **HB 208 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4766S).** Sen. Wicks (34th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 208 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 4766S)

HB 61 (Rep. Seabaugh, 34th, LC 39 4465) Motor vehicles; issuance of separate license plates for hearses and ambulances; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Devan Seabaugh (34th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Seabaugh (34th) and Sen. Shawn Still (48th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Betsey Bradfield, GA Realtors
Mike Mitchell, GA Sheriff's Association
Ryan Albers, AAHOA

Chris Hardman, GHLA

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Klaus Buch, Fulton Marshall
Lindsey Siegel, Attorney
Lejla Prljaca, Gwinnett Housing Authority
Mariel Sivley, St. Vincent de Paul
Elizabeth Appley, GA Supportive Housing Association
Nataile Keiser, Home ATL
Graham Younger, GACDL

NOTE: Sen. Wicks (34th) left at 1:43 p.m.

Committee Recommendation: HB 61 (LC 39 4465) No action taken

HB 77 (Rep. Franklin, 160th, LC 39 4412) Motor vehicles; encountering funeral procession on two-lane highway; revise responsibilities

The Chair recognized Rep. Lehman Franklin (160th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Franklin (160th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

Committee Recommendation: HB 77 (LC 39 4412) No action taken

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 1:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Subcommittee on First Responders
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety's Subcommittee on First Responders met on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 6:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Chairman
Sen. John Albers (56th), Member
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Member
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th), Member

NOTE: Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) was absent.

Chairman Robertson (29th) called the meeting to order at 6:00 a.m.

HB 651 (Rep. Powell, 33rd, LC 39 4729) Motor vehicles; use of automated traffic enforcement safety devices in school zones; revise provisions

The Chair recognized Rep. Alan Powell (33rd) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Powell (33rd) presented the bill to the Subcommittee.

Committee Recommendation: HB 651 (LC 39 4729) No Action Taken

HB 225 (Rep. Washburn, 144th, LC 39 4417) Motor vehicles; enforcement of speeding violations in school zones through automated traffic enforcement safety devices; repeal all laws

The Chair recognized Rep. Dale Washburn (144th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Washburn (144th) presented the bill to the Subcommittee.

Committee Recommendation: HB 225 (LC 39 4417) No Action Taken

The Chair opened the floor to public testimony. He recognized the following:

Scott Paterson, Dragon Eye Technology
Zach Watts, Blue Line Solutions
Greg Partch, Red Speed
Josh Waller, Allan Davis, and Sam Harris, Department of Transportation
Department of Public Safety
Sheriff Gary Long
James Dutton, Vice Chair of Spalding County Commission
Jeff Jackson, Georgia Independent School Association
Bill Grogan, Norcross Chief of Police

Chairman Robertson (29th) adjourned the meeting at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Wednesday, March 21, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Wednesday, March 21, 2025 at 7:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th) Vice-Chairman (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th) (*Arrived Late*)

NOTE: Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) was absent.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 7:07 a.m.

HB 238 (Rep. Lumsden, 12th, LC 56 0301S) Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council; create and maintain an at-risk adult training course focusing on officer response to individuals with Alzheimer's disease or dementia

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

NOTE: Sen. Wicks (34th) and Sen. Robertson (29th) arrived at 7:10 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) arrived at 7:12 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion that **HB 238 Do Pass (LC 56 0301S).** Sen. Williams (25th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 238 DO PASS (LC 56 0301S)

HB 77 (Rep. Franklin, 160th, LC 39 4412) Motor vehicles; encountering funeral procession on two-lane highway; revise responsibilities

The Chair recognized Rep. Lehman Franklin (160th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Franklin (160th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Halpern (39th) arrived at 7:18 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Goodman (8th) who made a motion that **HB 77 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4765S).** Sen. Jackson (41st) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 77 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 4765S)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 7:21 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Public Safety
Monday, March 24, 2025

The Senate Committee on Public Safety met on Monday, March 24, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following members were in attendance:

Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman
Sen. Randy Robertson (29th), Vice-Chairman
Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio (*Arrived Late)*
Sen. Russ Goodman (8th)
Sen. Kim Jackson (41st) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Harold Jones II (22nd) (*Arrived Late*)
Sen. Chuck Payne (54th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Kenya Wicks (34th)
Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Rick Williams (25th), Secretary, Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th), and Sen. Brian Strickland (42nd) were absent.

NOTE: Sen. Chuck Hufstetler (52nd) was assigned to the Senate Committee on Public Safety, as an Ex-Officio member, by the Committee on Assignments, for the meeting held on March 24, 2025. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

Chairman Albers (56th) called the meeting to order at 12:59 p.m.

The Chair welcomed Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) to the Public Safety Committee as an Ex-Officio.

HB 308 (Rep. Clifton, 131st, LC 39 4652S) Motor vehicles; operation of miniature on-road vehicles on certain highways; provide

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

NOTE: Sen. Jones (22nd) arrived at 1:03 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Jackson (41st) and Sen. Bearden (30th) arrived at 1:04 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Bearden (30th) who made a motion that **HB 308 Do Pass (LC 39 4652S).** Sen. Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 308 DO PASS (LC 39 4652S)

HB 61 (Rep. Seabaugh, 34th, LC 39 4465) Motor vehicles; issuance of separate license plates for hearses and ambulances; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Devan Seabaugh (34th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Seabaugh (34th) presented the bill and a proposed substitute to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. Payne (54th) who made a motion that **HB 61 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Bearden (30th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking "or former" on line 204 and 230. Sen. Bearden (30th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. Robertson (29th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking "unless the removal was wrongful" on line 292 and ending the line at "property". Sen. Goodman (8th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion **HB 61 Do Pass by Substitute**. The motion passed by a vote of 6-2.

Sen. Robertson (29th), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Goodman (8th), Sen. Jones (22nd), Sen. Payne (54th), and Sen. Hufstetler (52nd) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Jackson (41st) and Sen. Wicks (34th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 61 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 57 0278S)

Chairman Albers (56th) adjourned the meeting at 1:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. John Albers (56th), Chairman

/s/
William Spencer, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
[illegible] STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 3033[illegible]

BURT JONES
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

March 24, 2025

Mr. James Tripp
Secretary of the Senate
353 State Capitol
Atlanta, GA 30334

Secretary Tripp,

The Committee on Assignments has delegated to the President of the Senate the authority, under Rule 2-3.2 of the Rules of the Georgia Senate, to temporarily appoint ex-officio members of standing committees without further action by the Committee on Assignments.

Pursuant to that authority, I hereby appoint Senator Chuck Hufstetler as an ex-officio member of the Senate Public Safety Committee for the committee meeting to be held on March 24, 2025. Such appointment shall expire upon the adjournment of the meeting.

The designated Senator shall count as a voting member of the Committee for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present at the meeting held on this date and may vote on any matter before the Committee.

Sincerely,

Lt. Governor Burt Jones
President of the Senate