SENATE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

Sen. Brandon Beach, Chairman
District 21
3100 Brierfield Road
Alpharetta, GA 30004

Sen. Frank Ginn, Vice-Chairman
District 47
P.O. Box 1136
Danielsville, GA 30633

Sen. Emanuel Jones, Secretary
District 10
P.O. Box 370244
Decatur, GA 30037

Sen. Tonya Anderson
District 43
P.O. Box 1026
Lithonia, GA 30058

Sen. Timothy Bearden, Ex-Officio
(As of 2/21/25)
District 30
304-B CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Max Burns
District 45
P.O. Box 203
Sylvania, GA 30467

Sen. Clint Dixon, Ex-Officio
District 45
P.O. Box 802
Buford, GA 30515

Sen. Drew Echols
District 49
P.O. Box 1600
Gainesville, GA 30503

Sen. Mike Hodges, Ex-Officio
District 3
3410 Cypress Mill Rd Box 101
Brunswick, GA 31525

Sen. Donzella James
District 28
P.O. Box 311225
Atlanta, GA 30331

Sen. Derek Mallow
District 2
P.O. Box 14034
Savannah, GA 31416

Sen. Josh McLaurin
District 14
P.O. Box 567297
Atlanta, GA 31156

Sen. Sheikh Rahman
District 5
P.O. Box 221
Lawrenceville, GA 30046

Sen. Carden Summers
District 13
108 East 13th Avenue
Cordele, GA 31015

Sen. Ben Watson, Ex-Officio
District 1
325-A CLOB
Atlanta, GA 30334

Sen. Sam Watson
District 11
P.O. Box 3914
Moultrie, GA 31776

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Wednesday, February 5, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Wednesday, February 5, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Donzella James (28th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd)
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th) *(Left Early)*
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Carden Summers (13th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Sam Watson (11th)

NOTE: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary, was absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

The proposed Committee Rules were reviewed. Sen. Summers (13th) made a motion to **Adopt the Rules**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Rules of the Committee appear on the following page.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 8:02 a.m.

SB 38 (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 49 2149) Development Impact Fees; provide for education
SR 52 (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 49 2150) Development Impact Fees for Educational Purposes -CA

The Chair recognized Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th) for the purpose of presenting the legislation. Sen. Dolezal (27th) presented the legislation to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for comments. He recognized the following:

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Stephanie Tanner, Georgia School Board Association

NOTE: Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at 8:25 a.m.

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Austin Hackney, Home Builders Association
Hayden Stanley, Apartment Association

NOTE: Sen. James (28th) arrived at 8:32 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 8:36 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. McLaurin (14th) left early at 8:42 a.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 38 (LC 49 2149) No Action Taken
Committee Recommendation: SR 52 (LC 49 2150) No Action Taken

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

SENATE COMMITTEE RULES ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM
2025-2026

1. A quorum for the Committee shall be seven (7) members.

2. The Chair shall determine bills and resolutions to be considered and the order in which such are called. The Chair also has the discretion as to which amendments to accept and as to their germaneness.

3. A bill, resolution, or other matter will be considered only after presentation by the principal author or a legislator whom he/she may designate. In the event more than one member of the Georgia General Assembly has signed a measure, the principal author shall be the one whose name appears first in the list of authors.

4. The Committee shall convene, recess, and adjourn upon the order of the Chair.

5. The Rules of the Senate shall prevail in all matters not covered by Committee meeting.

6. These Rules may be amended upon motion duly made and subsequently approved by three-fourths of the Committee, provided that written notice has been given 48 hours prior to the Committee meeting.

7. Any member(s) of the Committee who disagree(s) with the majority of the Committee shall have the privilege to file a minority report.

8. The Chair shall have the authority to refer bills and resolutions to Subcommittees for study. Such Subcommittees shall have the authority to make recommendations to the full Committee; but no measure will be returned to the full Senate, except after consideration by the full Committee.

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Wednesday, February 19, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Donzella James (28th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th)
Sen. Carden Summers (13th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Sam Watson (11th) *(Arrived Late)*

NOTE: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd) were absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

NOTE: Sen Watson (11th) and Sen. Hodges (3rd) arrived at 8:02 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) and Sen. Watson (1st) arrived at 8:04 a.m.

SB 28 (Sen. Dolezal, 27th, LC 55 0422) "Red Tape Rollback Act of 2025"; enact

The Chair recognized Sen. Dolezal (27th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Dolezal (27th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. James (28th) arrived at 8:35 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Tony West, Americans for Prosperity
Kennedy Atkins, Georgia Public Policy Foundation
Stefanie Zaenker, LIBRE Initiative

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **SB 28 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 55 0474S)**. Sen. Summers (13th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-4.

Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. Summers (13th), Sen. Watson (1st), and Sen. Watson (11th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. James (28th), Sen. Jones (10th), Sen. McLaurin (14th), and Sen. Rahman (5th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 28 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 55 0474S)

SB 111 (Sen. Albers 56th, LC 59 0079) "Georgia Consumer Privacy Protection Act"; enact

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

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Mason Rainey, Technology Association of Georgia
Dave Williams, Metro Atlanta Chamber

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Summers (13th) who made a motion that **SB 11 Do Pass (LC 59 0079)**. Sen. McLaurin (14th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 111 DO PASS (LC 59 0079)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Monday, February 24, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in Mezz 1 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Max Burns (23rd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th)
Sen. Carden Summers (13th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Sam Watson (11th)

NOTE: Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Ex-Officio, Sen. Tim Bearden (30th), and Sen. Donzella James (28th) were absent.

NOTE: Sen. Tim Bearden (30th) was appointed to the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism by the Committee on Assignments on February 21, 2025. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 1:36 p.m.

SB 182 (Sen. Halpern, 39th, LC 59 0080) "Georgia Music Office and Music Ready Communities Act"; enact

The Chair recognized Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Halpern (39th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Summers (13th) arrived at 1:39 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Mallow (2nd) arrived at 1:40 p.m.
NOTE: Sen. Burns (23rd) and Sen. Jones (10th) arrived at 1:41 p.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Mala Sharma, Georgia Music Partners
Brian Hudson, The Hudson Group

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 1:45 p.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Summers (13th) who made a motion that **SB 182 Do Pass (LC 59 0080)**. Sen. Mallow (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: SB 182 DO PASS (LC 59 0080)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 8:53 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

BURT JONES
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

February 21, 2025

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

Secretary Tripp:

The Senate Committee on Assignments has appointed Senator Tim Bearden as an ex-officio member of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism.

This appointment is effective immediately and shall run concurrent with the Senate term.

Sincerely,

Lt. Governor Burt Jones
President of the Senate

Senator John Kennedy
President Pro-Tempore

Senator Steve Gooch
Majority Leader

Senator Brandon Beach
District 21

Senator Greg Dolezal
District 27

Cc: Senator Tim Bearden
Amy Bottoms, Legislative Fiscal Officer

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Wednesday, February 26, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Wednesday, February 26, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Left Early)*
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Donzella James (28th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd)
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Carden Summers (13th)

NOTE: Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Sam Watson (11th) were absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

SB 37 (Sen. Albers, 56th, LC 59 0049) 'AI Accountability Act"; enact

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

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Kaylon Day, Association County Commissioners of Georgia

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair stated that the bill would receive a hearing only.

NOTE: Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 8:16 a.m.

Committee Recommendation: SB 37 (LC 59 0049) No Action Taken

SR 247 (Sen. Gooch, 51st, LC 112 3037) Loeffler, Kelly; commend

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Summers (13th) who made a motion that **SR 247 Do Pass (LC 112 3037)**. Sen. Burns (23rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-1.

Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. Jones (10th), Sen. Mallow (2nd), Sen. Rahman (5th), and Sen. Summers (13th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. McLaurin (14th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SR 247 DO PASS (LC 112 3037)

SB 167 (Sen. Merritt, 9th, LC 56 0255) Commerce and Trade; private entities that employ certain AI systems to guard against discrimination caused by such systems; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. Nikki Merritt (9th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Merritt (9th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at 8:27 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. James (28th) arrived at 8:32 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for debate.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Matthew Sherer, Center for Democracy and Technology

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair stated that the bill would receive a hearing only.

Committee Recommendation: SB 167 (LC 56 0255) No Action Taken

SB 107 (Sen. James, 28th, LC 55 0442) Specialized Land Transactions; protections of homeowners in community associations; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. James (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. James (28th) presented the bill to the Committee.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Sen. Freddie Powell Simms (12th)
Rep. Viola Davis (87th)

Testimony in opposition to the bill:
Betsy Bradfield, Georgia Association Realtors

The Chair stated that the bill would receive a hearing only to inform the drafting of a substitute for the next meeting.

Committee Recommendation: SB 107 (LC 55 0442) No Action Taken

SB 108 (Sen. James, 28th, LC 50 1037) Property Owners' Associations; certificates of good standing for payment of annual assessments; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. James (28th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. James (28th) presented the bill to the Committee.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Corro'll Driskell, Georgia HOA Alliance
Anne McKillips

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Betsy Bradfield, Georgia Association Realtors

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left early at 9:04 a.m.

The Chair stated that the bill would receive a hearing only to inform the drafting of a substitute for the next meeting.

Committee Recommendation: SB 108 (LC 50 1037) No Action Taken

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Friday, February 28, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Friday, February 28, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late and Left Early)*
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Donzella James (28th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd)
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Carden Summers (13th)
Sen. Sam Watson (11th) *(Arrived Late)*

NOTE: Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th), and Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio, were absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

SB 251 (Sen. Jackson, 41st, LC 60 0083) "Fair Business Practices Act of 1975,"; rent pricing for residential properties; encourage transparency and fairness

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

NOTE: Sen. Watson (11th) arrived at 8:02 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 8:04 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Hodges (3rd) and Sen. James (28th) arrived at 8:11 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at 8:14 a.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
David Wheaton, NAACP LDF
Matthew Nursey, Housing Justice League
Anhton Tran, Housing Justice League
Latresa Chaney

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:

Haydon Stanley, Ga Apartment Association

Committee Recommendation: SB 251 (LC 60 0083) No Action Taken

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) left early at 8:38 a.m.

SB 107 (Sen. James, 28th, LC 55 0442) Specialized Land Transactions; protections of homeowners in community associations; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. James (28th) and Sen. McLaurin (14th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. McLaurin (14th) presented the bill to the Committee.

NOTE: Sen. Mallow (2nd) left at 8:40 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Mallow (2nd) returned at 8:43 a.m.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Anne McKillips

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
Beth Taylor, Community Associations Institute

The Chair recognized Sen. Mallow (2nd) who made a motion that **SB 107 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. McLaurin (14th) seconded the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion to **Amend** by adding the words "subsidiary, parent, affiliate, or any" on line 109 after the words "nor any". Sen. Jones (10th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair called for a vote on the motion **SB 107 Do Pass by Substitute** as amended. The motion passed by a vote of 10-2.

Sen. Anderson (43rd), Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. James (28rd), Sen. Jones (10th), Sen. Mallow (2nd), Sen. McLaurin (14th), Sen. Summers (13th), and Sen. Watson (11th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Bearden (30th) and Sen. Hodges (3rd) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 107 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 59 0123S)

SB 108 (Sen. James, 28th, LC 55 1037) Property Owners' Associations; certificates of good standing for payment of annual assessments; provide

The Chair recognized Sen. James (28th) and Sen. McLaurin (14th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. McLaurin (14th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion to **Amend** by adding language after line 65, inserting a sub paragraph 5 saying "the association must act in good faith in all matters relating to the procedure, including, but not limited to, making reasonable efforts to engage in and conclude the proceeding promptly." The amendment also added a sub paragraph 6 saying "any association that violates sub paragraph 5 shall be liable for reasonable attorney's fees." Sen. James (28th) seconded the motion.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion.

Sen. McLaurin (14th) made a motion to **Withdraw** his amendment.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking "an association" from lines 71 – 72 and replacing with "the parties"; striking "any association" from line 76 and replacing with "any party"; and striking "lot owner" on line 76 and replacing with "aggrieved party". Sen. Mallow (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 10-1.

Sen. Anderson (43rd), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. James (28th), Sen. Jones (10th), Sen. Mallow (2nd), Sen. McLaurin (14th), Sen. Summers (13th), and Sen. Watson (11th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Burns (23rd) voted against the motion.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion that **SB 108 Do Pass by Substitute**. Sen. Jones (10th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 10-1.

Sen. Anderson (43rd), Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. James (28th), Sen. Jones (10th), Sen. Mallow (2nd), Sen. McLaurin (14th), Sen. Summers (13th), and Sen. Watson (11th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Burns (23rd) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: SB 108 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 59 0124S)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 9:11 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Wednesday, March 12, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Wednesday, March 12, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Greg Dolezal (27th), Ex-Officio *(Left Early)*
Sen. Drew Echols (49th) *(Left Early)*
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Donzella James (28th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) *(Arrived Late)*

NOTE: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary, Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd), Sen. Carden Summers (13th), Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Sam Watson (11th) were absent.

NOTE: Sen. Dolezal (27th) was appointed to the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism, as Ex-Officio, by the Committee on Assignments for the meeting held on March 12, 2025. A copy of the letter of appointment is attached.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 8:01 a.m.

HB 74 (Rep. Powell, 33rd, LC 28 0645) Georgia Lottery for Education Act; correct a reference

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

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 171 Do Pass (LC 28 0645)**. Sen. McLaurin (14th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 171 DO PASS (LC 28 0645)

SR 323 (Sen. Echols, 49th, LC 52 0790) Senate Study Committee on Making Georgia the No. 1 State for Tourism; create

The Chair recognized Sen. Echols (49th) for the purpose of presenting the resolution. Sen. Echols (49th) presented the resolution to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hodges (3rd) who made a motion that **SR 323 Do Pass (LC 52 0790)**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

NOTE: Sen. Echols (49th) left early at 8:08 a.m.

Committee Recommendation: SR 323 DO PASS (LC 52 0790)

HB 233 (Rep. Townsend, 179th, LC 39 4510) State symbols; Brunswick stew as the official state stew; designate

The Chair stated HB 233 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Rick Townsend (179th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Townsend (179th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

Committee Recommendation: HB 233 (LC 39 4510) No Action Taken

HB 14 (Rep. Carpenter, 4th, LC 55 0345) State symbols; cornbread as official state bread; designate

The Chair stated HB 14 would receive a hearing only.

The Chair recognized Rep. Kasey Carpenter (4th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Carpenter (4th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

Committee Recommendation: HB 14 (LC 55 0345) No Action Taken

HB 360 (Rep. Efstration, 104th, LC 50 1163S) Revenue and taxation; rehabilitation of historic structures; revise tax credit

The Chair recognized Rep. Chuck Efstration (104th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Efstration (104th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion that **HB 360 Do Pass (LC 50 1163S)**. Sen. Burns (23rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 360 DO PASS (LC 50 1163S)

HB 159 (Rep. Crowe, 118th, LC 62 0158S) Georgia Housing and Finance Authority; increase outstanding bond limit

The Chair recognized Rep. Clint Crowe (118th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Crowe (118th) presented the bill to the Committee.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Wesley Brooks, GA Housing Finance Authority

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

NOTE: Sen. James (28th) arrived at 8:26 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Dolezal (27th) left early at 8:27 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 159 Do Pass (LC 62 0158S)**. Sen. Hodges (3rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 159 DO PASS (LC 62 0158S)

HB 475 (Rep. Gambill, 15th, LC 59 0102) Income tax credit; film, gaming, or digital production; revise a definition

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

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Josh Stephens, Georgia Department of Economic Development
Leigh Thomas, Georgia Film Office

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

NOTE: Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 8:39 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 475 Do Pass (LC 59 0102)**. Sen. McLaurin (14th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-1.

Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. McLaurin (14th), and Sen. Rahman (5th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. James (28th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 475 DO PASS (LC 59 0102)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 8:43 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR
240 STATE CAPITOL
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30334

BURT JONES
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

3/12, 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 Greg Dolezal of the 27th District as an ex-officio member of the Senate Ecclure Dev. Committee for the committee meeting to be held on 3/12/2025. 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

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Wednesday, March 19, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Wednesday, March 19, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Mezz 1 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman
Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Drew Echols (49th)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd)
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th)
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Carden Summers (13th)
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio
Sen. Sam Watson (11th) *(Arrived Late)*

NOTE: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary, Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, and Sen. Donzella James (28th) were absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:07 a.m.

HB 455 (Rep. Powell, 33rd, LC 28 0674) Bingo; properties used for games; limit number of sessions; provisions

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

NOTE: Sen. Watson (11th) arrived at 8:17 a.m.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

NOTE: Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 8:20 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Anderson (43rd) arrived at 8:25 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 455 Do Pass (LC 28 0674)**. Sen. Hodges (3rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 455 DO PASS (LC 28 0674)

HB 454 (Rep. Gaines, 120th, LC 59 0113S) Vince Dooley Battlefield Trust Fund Act; enact

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 opened the floor for questions and discussion.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Jeff Mullis, Midnight Rider Consulting
Chris Welton, National American Battlefield Trust

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Burns (23rd) who made a motion that **HB 454 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 59 0143S)**. Sen. Echols (49th) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 7-4.

Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. Summers (13th), Sen. Watson (1st), and Sen. Watson (11th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Anderson (43rd), Sen. Mallow (2nd), Sen. McLaurin (14th), and Sen. Rahman (5th) voted against the motion.

Committee Recommendation: HB 454 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 59 0143S)

HB 233 (Rep. Townsend, 179th, LC 39 4510) State symbols; Brunswick stew as the official state stew; designate

The Chair recognized Rep. Rick Townsend (179th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Townsend (179th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions.

The Chair recognized Sen. Hodges (3rd) who made a motion that **HB 233 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 39 4749S)**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 233 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 39 4749S)

HB 399 (Rep. Oliver, 84th, LC 47 3490S) Property; require certain residential landlords to have in-state staff to manage tenant communications

The Chair recognized Rep. Mary Margaret Oliver (84th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Oliver (84th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for discussion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 399 Do Pass by Substitute (LC 47 3645S).** Sen. Mallow (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 399 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 47 3645S)

HB 216 (Rep. Smith, 138th, LC 59 0065) Richard H. Smith Georgia CHIPS Advancement in Research and Economic Development Act; enact

The Chair recognized Rep. Vance Smith (138th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Smith (138th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and discussion.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion that **HB 216 Do Pass (LC 59 0065)**. Sen. Ginn (47th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 216 DO PASS (LC 59 0065)

HB 718 (Rep. Jones, 60th, LC 59 0125) Women's Golf Week; first week of April each year; provide

The Chair recognized Rep. Sheila Jones (60th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Jones (60th) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and discussion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th), who made a motion that **HB 718 Do Pass (LC 59 0125)**. Sen. Anderson (43rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 718 DO PASS (LC 59 0125)

HB 14 (Rep. Carpenter, 4th, LC 55 0345) State symbols; cornbread as official state bread; designate

The Chair stated the bill would be held until the next meeting for further amendment.

Committee Recommendation: HB 14 (LC 55 0345) No Action Taken

HB 466 (Rep. Cameron, 1st, LC 62 0080) State symbols; marsh tacky horse as official Georgia heritage horse breed; designate

The Chair recognized Rep. Mike Cameron (1st) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Rep. Cameron (1st) presented the bill to the Committee.

The Chair opened the floor for questions and discussion.

The Chair recognized Sen. Mallow (2rd) who made a motion that **HB 466 Do Pass (LC 62 0080)**. Sen. Rahman (5th) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 466 DO PASS (LC 62 0080)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 8:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary

Minutes of the Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
Tuesday, March 25, 2025

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism met on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 8:00 a.m. in Room 450 of the State Capitol. The following Committee Members were in attendance:

Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman
Sen. Frank Ginn (47th), Vice Chairman *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Timothy Bearden (30th), Ex-Officio
Sen. Max Burns (23rd)
Sen. Mike Hodges (3rd), Ex-Officio
Sen. Drew Echols (49th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Derek Mallow (2nd)
Sen. Josh McLaurin (14th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Sheikh Rahman (5th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Carden Summers (13th) *(Arrived Late)*
Sen. Ben Watson (1st), Ex-Officio

NOTE: Sen. Emanuel Jones (10th), Secretary, Sen. Tonya Anderson (43rd), Sen. Clint Dixon (45th), Ex-Officio, Sen. Donzella James (28th), and Sen. Sam Watson (11th) were absent.

Chairman Beach (21st) called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.

The Chair recognized Rena Pec and Joe Cook of Georgia Rivers Association for a presentation.

NOTE: Sen. Ginn (47th) arrived at 8:07 a.m.
NOTE: Sen. Echols (49th) arrived at 8:18 a.m.

HB 14 (Rep. Carpenter, 4th, LC 59 0345) State symbols; cornbread as official state bread; designate

NOTE: Sen. McLaurin (14th) and Sen. Rahman (5th) arrived at 8:33 a.m.

The Chair recognized Sen. Sonya Halpern (39th) for the purpose of presenting the bill. Sen. Halpern (39th) presented the bill to the Committee.

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

Testimony in favor of the Bill:
Matt Campbell, B.I.G. Entertainment
Honnie Korngold, South Georgia Studios
Brian Hudson, The Hudson Group

NOTE: Sen. Summers (13th) arrived at 8:50 a.m.

Testimony in opposition to the Bill:
None

The Chair recognized Sen. Ginn (47th) who made a motion that **HB 14 Do Pass by Substitute** and to further **Amend** the substitute by striking lines 7-13 and section 2 of the bill. Sen. Mallow (2nd) seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The Chair recognized Sen. McLaurin (14th) who made a motion to **Amend** by striking lines 1-6 up to ";" and striking lines 22-281 and renumbering accordingly to remove the post production tax credit from the bill. Sen. Burns (23rd) seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of 6-4.

Sen. Bearden (30th), Sen. Burns (23rd), Sen. Ginn (47th), Sen. McLaurin (14th), Sen. Rahman (5th), and Sen. Summers (13th) voted in favor of the motion.

Sen. Echols (49th), Sen. Hodges (3rd), Sen. Mallow (2nd), and Sen. Watson (1st) voted against the motion.

The Chair called for a vote on the underlying motion **HB 14 Do Pass by Substitute**. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Recommendation: HB 14 DO PASS BY SUBSTITUTE (LC 59 0165S)

Chairman Beach (21st) adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/
Sen. Brandon Beach (21st), Chairman

/s/
Megan Stevens, Recording Secretary