

Senate Resolution 522

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Teacher's Early Retirement Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, current Georgia law provides that a member of the Teachers Retirement System
3 of Georgia may retire and begin receiving a retirement benefit at age 60 or, in the alternative,
4 a teacher may retire and begin receiving a benefit before he or she reaches age 60 if he or
5 she has attained 30 years of creditable service; and

6 WHEREAS, currently, the retirement benefit of a Georgia teacher who retires early is
7 reduced by 7 percent per year for every year he or she lacks either being 60 years of age or
8 having attained 30 years of creditable service; and

9 WHEREAS, the Constitution of Georgia requires that funds must be appropriated to cover
10 the cost of any legislation which would reduce the retirement age for teachers before such
11 legislation can become effective; and

12 WHEREAS, there is a need to study the benefits of early teacher retirement on public
13 education in this state.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the
15 Senate Teacher's Early Retirement Study Committee to be composed of five members of the
16 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate shall
17 designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson
18 shall call all meetings of the committee.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
20 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
21 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
22 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
23 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and

1 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
2 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
3 committees, but shall receive the same for not more than ten days unless additional days are
4 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
5 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its
6 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
7 shall be made on or before December 31, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on
8 December 31, 2002.