

House Resolution 946

By: Representatives Stanley of the 50th, Stanley of the 49th, Sinkfield of the 57th, Ashe of the 46th, Benfield of the 67th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Commission on Psychiatric Medication of School-Age Children; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, national medical reports indicate that psychiatric drugs are prescribed to
4 between 5 million and 6 million children each year who represent about 10 percent of the
5 total school-age population; and

6 WHEREAS, the International Narcotics Control Board of the World Health Organization
7 has reported that the United States is among the leading users of psychiatric drugs and has
8 warned us against our national trend to overprescribe stimulants for children; and

9 WHEREAS, it has been suggested that the recent incidents of school violence and other
10 occasions of violence are the result of children being unnecessarily medicated.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 GEORGIA that there is created the Commission on Psychiatric Medication of School-Age
13 Children. The commission shall be composed of 12 members. Four members of the House
14 of Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, four
15 members of the Senate shall be appointed by the President of the Senate, and four members
16 shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson who shall
17 call all meetings and schedule the agenda of the commission.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall undertake a study to investigate
19 the use of psychiatric medications and their effects on school-age children of this state and
20 to provide recommendations for improved oversight of the prescribed use of narcotics
21 among Georgia's youth. The commission may conduct meetings at such places and at such
22 times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively
23 its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.
24 The members of the commission shall serve without compensation; provided, however, that

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