

House Resolution 982

By: Representatives McBee of the 88th, Orrock of the 56th and Henson of the 65th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome (CFIDS) is a terribly
4 debilitating and serious illness affecting over 800,000 men, women, and children of all races
5 and socioeconomic levels in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, CFIDS is a serious public health problem and a real medical condition that has
7 been identified by scientists; and

8 WHEREAS, the majority of CFIDS cases in the United States are found in women between
9 the ages of 40 and 49 with CFIDS being three times more common than HIV infection in
10 women and 25 times more common than AIDS among women; and

11 WHEREAS, individuals with CFIDS are often so impaired that they can no longer work, care
12 for their families, or enjoy even the simplest pleasures of life; and

13 WHEREAS, there is no known cause or cure for CFIDS at this time; however, when patients
14 are properly diagnosed, physicians can help improve their quality of life by treating the
15 symptoms associated with the condition; and

16 WHEREAS, persons suffering from CFIDS are often misdiagnosed or under diagnosed and
17 frequently refused medical coverage for their illnesses by insurance companies; and

18 WHEREAS, there exists a pressing need to increase the public's understanding and the
19 health care community's awareness of this devastating illness and to encourage research to
20 identify its cause or causes and hopefully its cure.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
2 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Chronic Fatigue and Immune
3 Dysfunction Syndrome to be composed of three members of the Senate to be appointed by
4 the President of the Senate and three members of the House of Representatives to be
5 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The President of the Senate and
6 the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall each designate a member of the committee
7 to serve as cochairperson and call all meetings of the committee.

8 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
9 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
10 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
11 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
12 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
13 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of this committee
14 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
15 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
16 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
17 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
18 appropriated to the General Assembly. In the event the committee makes a report of its
19 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
20 shall be made on or before December 1, 2001. The committee shall stand abolished on
21 December 1, 2001.