

## House Resolution 983

By: Representatives Ashe of the 46<sup>th</sup> and Coleman of the 80<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Universal School Breakfast; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, medical studies and nutritional research have confirmed that students who have  
3 school breakfast perform significantly higher on standardized achievement tests than students  
4 without breakfast; and

5 WHEREAS, these studies also indicate that students who regularly ate school breakfast had  
6 math grades that averaged almost a letter grade higher than students who ate school breakfast  
7 rarely; and that children who ate breakfast at school scored notably higher on most tests than  
8 children who ate breakfast at home or who did not eat breakfast; and

9 WHEREAS, breakfast at school helps students pay better attention in school, improves  
10 student attendance and creativity, and reduces student discipline problems; and

11 WHEREAS, regardless of income levels, children who ate breakfast had significantly better  
12 component scores for grains, fruits, milk products, and variety in their diets than children  
13 who did not eat breakfast; and

14 WHEREAS, 93 percent of Georgia's public schools already offer breakfast at school, and an  
15 effective component of early academic programs would be to provide the school breakfast  
16 program at no charge to all students without regard to economic need.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
18 there is created the House Study Committee on Universal School Breakfast to be composed  
19 of three members appointed by the Speaker of the House who shall designate a member to  
20 serve as chairperson and call all meetings of the committee.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the status of  
22 the school breakfast program in Georgia's public schools; the relationship between the school

1 breakfast program and other nutrition related factors on school achievement; and specifically  
2 the potential impact and cost to the state of providing, at no charge to students, a breakfast  
3 program in public elementary school. The committee is further authorized to study barriers  
4 to school lunch and breakfast program participation at all grade levels. The committee shall  
5 seek information and assistance from the Georgia Association of Elementary School  
6 Principals, the Georgia School Food Service Association, the Georgia Chapter of the  
7 American Academy on Pediatrics, the Georgia School Boards Association, and the Georgia  
8 Department of Education's School and Community Nutrition Program. The committee may  
9 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
10 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
11 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee  
12 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative  
13 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are  
14 authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its finding and recommendations,  
15 with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before  
16 December 31, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2002.