

House Resolution 1146

By: Representatives McBee of the 88th, Heard of the 89th, Hudgens of the 24th and Smith of the 91st

A RESOLUTION

1 Continuing the Joint Study Committee on Limited Access for State Route 316/University
2 Parkway; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the public is increasingly concerned that the rapid rise in traffic congestion
4 along Georgia highways severely threatens the safety of all travelers; and

5 WHEREAS, significant economic growth has occurred and is continuing to occur along our
6 state highway system, particularly along the University Parkway portion of State Route 316
7 that runs through portions of Barrow, Gwinnett, and Oconee counties; and

8 WHEREAS, there is immediate need for commitment and coordination between
9 government, business, academia, and citizens to ensure that economic growth in this corridor
10 occurs in a way that enhances the quality of life for all; and

11 WHEREAS, the current traffic conditions along the University Parkway portion of State
12 Route 316 need to be studied to determine whether it warrants status as a limited-access
13 roadway; and

14 WHEREAS, public and private investments in freight and passenger rail service, aviation,
15 and other transportation facilities are planned along this route and the opportunity exists to
16 leverage the benefits and return on the transportation investment by developing a
17 limited-access corridor on State Route 316/University Parkway; and

18 WHEREAS, developing high technology research is a state priority endorsed by the
19 Governor and State Route 316/University Parkway is essential in linking university
20 technology research to the high technology research industry; and

21 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has initiated strategic
22 directives for developing a research and technology industry in Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, the action required by the Georgia Department of Transportation needs to be
2 well understood and departmental endorsement obtained, and the cooperation of the county
3 governing authorities involved in such a change will also be necessary; and

4 WHEREAS, the members of the Joint Study Committee on Limited Access for State Route
5 316/University Parkway created by 2001 House Resolution 215 diligently studied the
6 conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above and recommended that such study
7 committee be continued for further study.

8 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY that there is
9 continued the Joint Study Committee on Limited Access for State Route 316/University
10 Parkway to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed
11 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and five members of the Senate to be
12 appointed by the President of the Senate. The Speaker of the House and the President of the
13 Senate shall each designate a member of the committee as cochairperson of the committee.
14 The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
16 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
17 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
18 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
19 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
20 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The Georgia Department of
21 Transportation will provide staff, information, and assistance to the committee throughout
22 its study. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for
23 legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more
24 than ten days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the
25 provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of
26 Representatives and the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings
27 and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
28 made on or before December 31, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on December
29 31, 2002.