

House Resolution 1148

By: Representative Stallings of the 100th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Georgia Social Security Supplement Program;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, each year, the General Assembly creates and funds assistance programs for a
4 myriad of groups and corporations, some overt, others more difficult to identify; some
5 worthy, others somewhat less than worthy, but all having a common thread in that they
6 receive a share of the taxpayers' money, while many of our senior citizens receive short
7 shrift; and

8 WHEREAS, while the "education community" consumes by far the largest part of the state
9 budget, resulting in temples of learning at every level of public education, the aging segment
10 of our population who helped pay for these benefits goes wanting; and

11 WHEREAS, while a large and growing segment of our population is unable to enjoy a
12 well-deserved rest, some even unable to afford decent health care, because they worked
13 regular jobs, did their military duty, paid their bills, raised and educated their children, tithed
14 to their places of worship, and were so intent on being honest, ordinary citizens that they
15 were unable to sock away enough money for retirement; and

16 WHEREAS, a state that can pay for so many public assistance programs for so many groups
17 of both high and low estate while maintaining one of the lowest tax rates and best bond
18 ratings in the nation can well afford to assist its senior citizens through a supplement to
19 federal social security benefits, which would be the first state program of its kind, funded and
20 managed by the state for the benefit of some of our most deserving and most needing
21 citizens.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
23 there is created the House Study Committee on the Georgia Social Security Supplement
24 Program to be composed of the chairperson of the House Committee on Ways and Means,

1 the chairperson of the House Committee on Appropriations, and three other members of the
2 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
3 The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.
4 The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
6 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
7 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
8 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
9 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
10 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
11 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
12 committees but shall receive the same for not more than ten days unless additional days are
13 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
14 from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee
15 makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed
16 legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2002. The
17 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2002.