

House Resolution 1321

By: Representatives Royal of the 164th, Hudson of the 156th, Ray of the 128th and Floyd of the 138th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Biodiesel Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, a mixture of petroleum diesel and biodiesel, a fuel derived from vegetable oils
3 or animal fats, burns cleaner in diesel engines than pure petroleum diesel; and
- 4 WHEREAS, the use of 100 percent biodiesel can result in emission reductions of particulate
5 matter by 40 percent, carbon monoxide by 44 percent, and unburned hydrocarbons by 68
6 percent compared to petroleum diesel, and the odor from burning biodiesel is less offensive
7 to most people than from petroleum diesel; and
- 8 WHEREAS, limited or no modifications to either the fuel handling infrastructure or diesel
9 engines are required and engine performance is not hindered by burning biodiesel; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Georgia sells over 1 million gallons of diesel fuel per day, about 12 percent of
11 total U.S. diesel fuel sales; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the 21 county Atlanta metro area school districts burn nearly 10 million gallons
13 of diesel fuel, the Georgia Department of Transportation burns over 1.5 million gallons of
14 diesel fuel, and MARTA burns nearly 6.7 million gallons of diesel annually; and
- 15 WHEREAS, significant improvement in air quality can be obtained by burning biodiesel in
16 diesel engines; and
- 17 WHEREAS, one gallon of feedstock produces about one gallon of biodiesel and Georgia has
18 an abundance of available feedstock to produce biodiesel; and
- 19 WHEREAS, the existence of a moderate sized biodiesel plant in Georgia would provide an
20 economic impact of nearly \$8 million annually and generate added state taxes of over

1 \$800,000 annually while providing an economic boost to rural Georgia, especially to Georgia
2 farmers that produce feedstock for such plant, and it would be appropriate to investigate
3 ways of acquiring such a facility.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
5 there is created the House Biodiesel Study Committee to be composed of five members of
6 the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
7 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of
8 the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
10 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
11 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
12 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
13 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
14 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
15 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
16 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
17 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
18 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
19 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of
20 its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
21 report shall be made on or before December 1, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished
22 on December 1, 2002.