

Senate Resolution 910

By: Senators Stokes of the 43rd, Balfour of the 9th, Polak of the 42nd, Tate of the 38th, Price of the 56th and Smith of the 25th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Economic Impact of Health Care Systems Regulation Study Committee;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the development and capitalization of health care delivery systems are crucial
4 to the welfare of the citizens of Georgia, and health care facilities are a vital part of Georgia's
5 economy, fostering economic development in their service areas by providing significant
6 employment, new revenue, and important programs for the benefit of the citizens of Georgia;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, health care delivery systems and the development and capitalization of health
9 care facilities create economic opportunity and are a vital component to economic stability
10 and growth of both rural and urban communities; and

11 WHEREAS, the certificate of need regulatory program should assist, not hinder, orderly
12 economic growth and development for all communities, urban and rural, to ensure delivery
13 of needed services and quality health care for all citizens while encouraging provider
14 expansion through new capital infusion in those communities; and

15 WHEREAS, economic stability and growth through provider capitalization encourages
16 pursuit of health care related careers and can provide crucial relief to the severe shortage of
17 nursing and other health care professionals; and

18 WHEREAS, the certificate of need regulatory program often maintains exclusive provider
19 monopolies in regulated inpatient services to the detriment of patients and health care
20 providers, these monopolies directly impacting patient choice and access to basic medical
21 services through manipulation of managed care or other health care delivery plans; and

22 WHEREAS, there is a need to review certificate of need and managed care statutes and
23 regulations and the manner in which they are interpreted, their impact on economic

1 development, and the denial or exclusion of necessary services, through contract or
2 otherwise, that results through application of these regulations in order to determine whether
3 any reform, revision, or modernization of such laws is necessary and appropriate under
4 current economic conditions so as to better fulfill the purposes of such laws and provide for
5 the best health care delivery system for the citizens of Georgia while encouraging positive
6 economic development for Georgia's communities.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
8 Economic Impact of Health Care Systems Regulation Study Committee to be composed of
9 six members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President of
10 the Senate shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The
11 chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

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