

House Resolution 1493

By: Representatives Smith of the 19th, Reece of the 11th, Bridges of the 9th, Stephens of the 150th, Hudson of the 156th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Severe Weather Warning and Communications; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia has experienced more than 1,200 tornadoes in 157 of its 159 counties
4 since 1950; and

5 WHEREAS, effective and early warning of tornadoes and severe weather is vital to reducing
6 the risk of death and serious injury; and

7 WHEREAS, one of the most effective ways to warn of severe weather is a tone activated
8 NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) weather radio; and

9 WHEREAS, the NOAA weather radio transmitter network now provides coverage to at least
10 98 percent of Georgia; and

11 WHEREAS, the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, local emergency management
12 agencies, and the National Weather Service Georgia have worked diligently to encourage the
13 purchase and use of NOAA weather radios in every home and business.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
15 there is created the House Study Committee on Severe Weather Warning and
16 Communications to be composed of five members appointed by the Speaker of the House.
17 The Speaker shall also appoint five additional nonvoting persons to the committee: one
18 representing the Georgia Emergency Management Agency, one representing the National
19 Weather Service, one representing the Georgia Manufactured Housing Association, one
20 representing the Association County Commissioners of Georgia, and one representing the
21 Georgia Municipal Association. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as
22 chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of ways to
2 encourage the use of NOAA weather radios in all types of housing, public facilities, and
3 places of business and recommend any actions or legislation which the committee deems
4 necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at
5 such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and
6 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this
7 resolution. The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances
8 authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the
9 same for not more than five days. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
10 resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the
11 event the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions
12 for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 1, 2002.
13 The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2002.