

Senate Resolution 965

By: Senator Scott of the 36th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint MARTA Finance Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority was created by an Act
3 approved March 10, 1965 (Ga. L. 1965, p. 2243); and

4 WHEREAS, since its inception, MARTA has grown to become a regional transportation
5 system while the costs of maintaining and improving the MARTA system fall
6 disproportionately on the citizens and taxpayers of the City of Atlanta, Fulton County, and
7 DeKalb County; and

8 WHEREAS, there is a need to review the laws relating to MARTA so as to develop a
9 proposal for a more fair and equitable funding formula which is appropriate and necessary
10 for MARTA's continued financial stability and success in fulfilling its responsibilities as a
11 critical regional transportation system.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint MARTA Finance Study Committee to be composed
14 of ten members. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members,
15 three of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives from the metropolitan
16 Atlanta area and two of whom shall be local government officials or other citizens from the
17 metropolitan Atlanta area having knowledge or expertise regarding MARTA, as members
18 of the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson. The President
19 of the Senate shall appoint five members, three of whom shall be members of the Senate
20 from the metropolitan Atlanta area and two of whom shall be local government officials or
21 other citizens from the metropolitan Atlanta area having knowledge or expertise regarding
22 MARTA, as members of the committee and shall designate one of such members as
23 cochairperson. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a comprehensive study
2 of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and
3 recommend any action or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.
4 The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
5 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
6 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative
7 members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8
8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Nonlegislative members of the committee who
9 are not public officials or employees shall receive from legislative funds a daily expense
10 allowance as provided in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the O.C.G.A. Any
11 nonlegislative public official or employee on the committee shall receive no compensation
12 from legislative funds but may be reimbursed for expenses actually incurred. All funds
13 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated
14 to the House of Representatives and the Senate. The expenses and allowances authorized by
15 this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days
16 unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its
17 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
18 shall be made on or before December 1, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on
19 December 1, 2002.