

House Resolution 1650

By: Representatives Stanley of the 50th and Stanley of the 49th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Commission on Psychiatric Medication of School-Age Children; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, national medical reports indicate that psychiatric drugs are prescribed to
4 between 5 million and 6 million children each year who represent about 10 percent of the
5 total school-age population; and

6 WHEREAS, the International Narcotics Control Board of the World Health Organization
7 has reported that the United States is among the leading users of psychiatric drugs and has
8 warned us against our national trend to overprescribe stimulants for children; and

9 WHEREAS, it has been suggested that the recent incidents of school violence and other
10 occasions of violence are the result of children being unnecessarily medicated.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
12 there is created the House Commission on Psychiatric Medication of School-Age Children.
13 The commission shall be composed of eight members. Four members of the House of
14 Representatives shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and four
15 members shall be appointed by the Governor. The Governor shall appoint the chairperson
16 who shall call all meetings and schedule the agenda of the commission.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall undertake a study to investigate
18 the use of psychiatric medications and their effects on school-age children of this state and
19 to provide recommendations for improved oversight of the prescribed use of narcotics
20 among Georgia's youth. The commission may conduct meetings at such places and at such
21 times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively
22 its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.
23 The members of the commission shall serve without compensation; provided, however, that
24 legislative members shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative committees but

1 shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The
2 funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
3 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the commission makes a report
4 of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
5 reports shall be made on or before December 1, 2002. The commission shall stand abolished
6 on December 1, 2002.