

## House Resolution 215

By: Representatives McBee of the 88<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 91<sup>st</sup>, Heard of the 89<sup>th</sup>, Squires of the 78<sup>th</sup>, Massey of the 86<sup>th</sup> and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Limited Access for State Route 316/University  
2 Parkway; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the public is increasingly concerned that the rapid rise in traffic congestion  
4 along Georgia highways severely threatens the safety of all travelers; and

5 WHEREAS, significant economic growth has occurred and is continuing to occur along our  
6 state highway system, particularly along the University Parkway portion of State Route 316  
7 that runs through portions of Barrow, Gwinnett, and Oconee counties; and

8 WHEREAS, there is immediate need for commitment and coordination between government,  
9 business, academia, and citizens to ensure that economic growth in this corridor occurs in a  
10 way that enhances the quality of life for all; and

11 WHEREAS, the current traffic conditions along the University Parkway portion of State  
12 Route 316 need to be studied to determine whether it warrants status as a limited-access  
13 roadway; and

14 WHEREAS, public and private investments in freight and passenger rail service, aviation,  
15 and other transportation facilities are planned along this route and the opportunity exists to  
16 leverage the benefits and return on the transportation investment by developing a  
17 limited-access corridor on State Route 316/University Parkway; and

18 WHEREAS, developing high technology research is a state priority endorsed by the  
19 Governor and State Route 316/University Parkway is essential in linking university  
20 technology research to the high technology research industry; and

21 WHEREAS, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia has initiated strategic  
22 directives for developing a research and technology industry in Georgia; and

1 WHEREAS, the action required by the Georgia Department of Transportation needs to be  
2 well understood and departmental endorsement obtained, and the cooperation of the county  
3 governing authorities involved in such a change will also be necessary.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY that there is  
5 created the Joint Study Committee on Limited Access for State Route 316/University  
6 Parkway to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed  
7 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives and five members of the Senate to be  
8 appointed by the President of the Senate. The Speaker of the House and the President of the  
9 Senate shall each designate a member of the committee as cochairperson of the committee.  
10 The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
12 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions  
13 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
14 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
15 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
16 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The Georgia Department of  
17 Transportation will provide staff, information, and assistance to the committee throughout  
18 its study. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for  
19 legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more  
20 than ten days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the  
21 provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of  
22 Representatives and the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and  
23 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be  
24 made on or before December 31, 2001. The committee shall stand abolished on December  
25 31, 2001.