

## Senate Resolution 134

By: Senators Walker of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Dean of the 31<sup>st</sup>, Gillis of the 20<sup>th</sup>, Hooks of the 14<sup>th</sup>, Harbison of the 15<sup>th</sup> and Stokes of the 43<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on the Prevention and Emergency Care of Injuries in  
2 Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly is concerned with protecting the health of the citizens of  
4 Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, unintentional injuries resulting from motor vehicle collisions, bicycle and  
6 pedestrian mishaps, falls, fires, and other causes result in 2,800 deaths every year in Georgia;  
7 and

8 WHEREAS, unintentional injuries are the most common cause of death among children and  
9 young adults (ages 1-34) in Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, unintentional injury death rates in most Georgia counties are higher than in the  
11 United States as a whole; and

12 WHEREAS, unintentional injuries are a leading cause of hospitalization and permanent  
13 disability; and

14 WHEREAS, the costs of unintentional injuries include not only medical care but costs of  
15 rehabilitation and loss of wages; and

16 WHEREAS, unintentional injuries can be prevented via education of the public,  
17 implementation of specific injury prevention programs, and implementation of laws and  
18 regulations; and

19 WHEREAS, programs exist which have been proven effective in preventing unintentional  
20 injuries; and

1 WHEREAS, skilled on-site treatment, rapid transport, and the availability of specialized  
2 trauma treatment centers can reduce death and permanent disability from all types of injuries;  
3 and

4 WHEREAS, effective public health surveillance programs can guide the type and placement  
5 of unintentional injury prevention programs, emergency transport, and trauma treatment  
6 centers.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
8 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on the Prevention and Emergency  
9 Care of Injuries in Georgia to be composed of three members of the Senate to be appointed  
10 by the President of the Senate; three members of the House of Representatives to be  
11 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the Director of the Governor's  
12 Office of Highway Safety or such person's designee; the Director of the Division of Public  
13 Health of the Department of Human Resources or such person's designee; the President of  
14 the Georgia Hospital Association or such person's designee; a representative of the Medical  
15 Association of Georgia and Georgia State Medical Association or that person's designee; the  
16 Executive Director of Safe Kids of Georgia or such person's designee; the Director of  
17 Children's Trust Fund or such person's designee; the Commissioner of the State Department  
18 of Community Health; and the Director of the Injury Control Center of the Rollins School  
19 of Public Health or such person's designee to be appointed by the Governor with such  
20 person's consent. The Governor shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
21 of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
23 needs, issues, and problems associated with the prevention of unintentional injuries,  
24 emergency transport, and emergency treatment of injured persons. The committee may  
25 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
26 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
27 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee  
28 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative  
29 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are  
30 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
31 from the funds appropriated to the Senate and House of Representatives. In the event the  
32 committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for  
33 proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 15, 2001. The  
34 committee shall stand abolished on December 15, 2001.