

## House Resolution 514

By: Representatives Parrish of the 144<sup>th</sup>, Jamieson of the 22<sup>nd</sup>, Channell of the 111<sup>th</sup>, Burkhalter of the 41<sup>st</sup> and Stephens of the 150<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Tourism Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, tourism has a significant impact on the economy of the State of Georgia; and

3 WHEREAS, comprehensive study should be undertaken to assist the General Assembly in  
4 evaluating matters relating to tourism in Georgia and the promotion of tourism, conventions,  
5 and trade shows.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
7 there is created the House Tourism Study Committee, to be composed of five members of  
8 the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The  
9 Speaker of the House shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the  
10 committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall be charged with examining:

12 (1) The State of Georgia Tourism Program Evaluation as prepared for the Budget  
13 Responsibility Oversight Committee by the Department of Audits and the Office of  
14 Planning and Budget (December 1998);

15 (2) Other states' plans for sustainable tourism advertising funding commensurate with  
16 the states' tourism employment and impact on the states' economy;

17 (3) The comparative history of tourism funding over the past decade as a percentage of  
18 the state's budget;

19 (4) Revenues generated in state and local taxes as a result of tourism activity and the  
20 overall economic impact of tourism on Georgia's economy;

21 (5) The feasibility of utilizing the four digit SIC codes as a tracking instrument for  
22 tourism related spending patterns as a component of tourism;

23 (6) The expenditures of hotel/motel tax moneys for the purpose of promoting tourism,  
24 conventions, and trade shows including such expenditures in support of special events of  
25 national or international significance;

- 1 (7) The budgets, audits, and reports including all such items filed with the Department  
2 of Community Affairs as contemplated and required by paragraph (10) of subsection (a)  
3 of Code Section 48-13-51 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, including the  
4 accuracy of such audits and reports;
- 5 (8) The expenditure by the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism for the last three  
6 years of all funds for the promotion of tourism, conventions, and trade shows including  
7 performance audits of all types covering the expenditure of such funds by the Department  
8 of Industry, Trade, and Tourism;
- 9 (9) The use of hotel/motel tax funds by local convention and visitors bureaus including  
10 an analysis of at least one small, one medium, and one large convention and visitors  
11 bureau; and
- 12 (10) Any other matter dealing with tourism in Georgia.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
14 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions  
15 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
16 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
17 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
18 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee  
19 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of  
20 Georgia Annotated, but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional  
21 days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall  
22 come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the  
23 committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for  
24 proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2001. The  
25 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2001.