

House Resolution 174 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Shanahan of the 10th and Hanner of the 159th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Hazardous Sites Response Act Reauthorization Study Committee; creating
2 the Joint Study Committee on Providing Drivers' Licenses to Aliens; creating the Joint Study
3 Committee on Limited Access for State Route 316/University Parkway; and for other
4 purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the natural environment is a precious resource of this state and its protection is
6 a crucial component to the future prosperity of Georgia; and

7 WHEREAS, the protection of human health is of utmost concern to the Environmental
8 Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources of the State of Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Division is charged with protecting human health
10 and the environment from release of hazardous waste, hazardous constituents, and hazardous
11 materials from hazardous sites; and

12 WHEREAS, the Environmental Protection Division protects human health and the
13 environment from releases at hazardous sites through the use of the Hazardous Waste Trust
14 Fund which is funded by fees on hazardous waste, hazardous substances, and solid waste;
15 and

16 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia Program Evaluation of the Sufficiency of the Hazardous
17 Waste Trust Fund, prepared December, 1999, by the Department of Audits and Accounts,
18 showed a \$213.6 million shortfall in funding under the current fee structure; and

19 WHEREAS, the Hazardous Waste Trust Fund will not have enough funding to protect
20 human health and the environment from releases at hazardous sites if additional funding is
21 not obtained; and

1 WHEREAS, the fees will sunset on July 1, 2003, if they are not reauthorized by the General
2 Assembly; and

3 WHEREAS, an overall comprehensive study should be undertaken to assist the General
4 Assembly in determining the need for additional funding for the Hazardous Waste Trust
5 Fund; and

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

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

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Hazardous Sites Response Act Reauthorization
14 Study Committee. The President of the Senate shall appoint three members of the Senate,
15 one of whom shall serve as cochairperson of the committee. The President of the Senate
16 shall also appoint three additional persons to the committee, one representing the interests
17 of environmental groups, one representing the interests of business and industry, and one
18 representing the interests of municipal corporations. The Speaker of the House of
19 Representatives shall appoint three members of the House, one of whom shall serve as
20 cochairperson of the committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall also
21 appoint three additional persons to the committee, one representing the interests of
22 environmental groups, one representing the interests of business and industry, and one
23 representing the interests of counties. The director of the Environmental Protection Division
24 of the Department of Natural Resources shall serve as a member of the committee and shall
25 provide information as requested by the committee; provided, however, that the director shall
26 have no vote on any matter before the committee. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings
27 of the committee.

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
29 needs, issues, and problems regarding the funding shortfall mentioned above or related
30 thereto, including a review of experience with the Hazardous Sites Response Act to date to
31 determine what improvements might allow for more cost effective results, and recommend
32 any actions or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The

1 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
2 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
3 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the
4 committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim
5 legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless
6 additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
7 resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of
8 Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
9 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
10 made on or before December 1, 2001. The committee shall stand abolished on December
11 1, 2001.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that there
13 is created the Joint Study Committee on Providing Drivers' Licenses to Aliens. The President
14 of the Senate shall appoint three members of the Senate, one of whom shall serve as
15 cochairperson of the committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint
16 three members of the House, one of whom shall serve as cochairperson of the committee.
17 The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the issues,
19 needs, and problems regarding providing drivers' licenses to aliens and recommend any
20 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
21 conduct meetings at such places and times as it may deem necessary. The members of the
22 committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim
23 legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless
24 additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
25 resolution shall come from the funds appropriate to the Senate and House of Representatives.
26 In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with
27 suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December
28 1, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2001.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Limited
30 Access for State Route 316/University Parkway to be composed of five members of the
31 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
32 and five members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The Speaker
33 of the House and the President of the Senate shall each designate a member of the committee

1 as cochairperson of the committee. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the
2 committee.

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