

House Resolution 700

By: Representatives Parrish of the 102nd, Channell of the 77th, and Coleman of the 118th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Local Government Infrastructure; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, economic development and quality of life are tied to the adequacy of local
4 government infrastructure, including but not limited to, sewer systems, water systems, public
5 safety facilities, and local roads; and

6 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia relies heavily on infrastructure improvements made by its
7 local governments; and

8 WHEREAS, business retention, continued growth, as well as public health and safety depend
9 on local governments investing in infrastructure improvements; and

10 WHEREAS, local governments often struggle to find reliable sources of revenue other than
11 property taxes to fund such vital capital improvements; and

12 WHEREAS, legislation enacted to authorize local government access to alternative revenue
13 has been sporadic and piecemeal.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
15 there is created the House Study Committee on Local Government Infrastructure to be
16 composed of 11 members, five of whom shall be members of the House of Representatives,
17 one of whom shall be the chairperson of the committee, three of whom shall be members of
18 a municipal governing authority, and three of whom shall be members of a county governing
19 authority, all to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Georgia
20 Municipal Association may suggest the names of persons to serve as municipal members of
21 the committee. The Association County Commissioners of Georgia may suggest the names
22 of persons to serve as the county members of the committee. The Speaker shall designate
23 the Chairperson of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs to serve as the

1 chairperson of said study committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the
2 committee.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the issues,
4 needs, financing, and other problems related to local government infrastructure and
5 recommend any action or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.
6 The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
7 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
8 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The committee is
9 expressly authorized to solicit testimony from members of the academic, business, scientific,
10 and local government community for the purpose of studying the feasibility of
11 recommendations. The members of the committee that are also members of the House of
12 Representatives shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the
13 Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Such members of the committee shall not receive the
14 allowances authorized by this resolution for more than five days unless additional days are
15 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
16 from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee
17 makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed
18 legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2003. The
19 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2003.