

Senate Resolution 55

By: Senators Tolleson of the 18th, Kemp of the 46th, Hudgens of the 47th, Zamarripa of the 36th, Price of the 56th and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Prescription Drugs for Seniors; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, prescription drug prices are one of the critical health care issues facing senior
4 citizens throughout Georgia and our nation today; and

5 WHEREAS, for many seniors who live on very limited, fixed retirement incomes, the rising
6 costs of their prescription drugs are a constant source of anxiety that often exacerbates
7 existing health problems; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is committed to protecting the health and welfare of its
9 citizens but has not been as innovative in the past as it might have been; and

10 WHEREAS, there is a genuine need for leadership in investigating ways to ease this burden
11 on our senior citizens.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Prescription Drugs for Seniors
14 to be composed of six members. Two members of the Senate shall be appointed by the
15 Senate Committee on Assignments, and two members of the House of Representatives shall
16 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. In addition, the Senate
17 Committee on Assignments shall appoint one member of the public from the pharmaceutical
18 industry, and the Speaker of the House shall appoint one member of the public who shall
19 represent the senior citizen community. The Senate Committee on Assignments shall
20 designate a member of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
21 designate a member of the House who shall serve as cochairpersons of the committee. The
22 committee shall meet at the call of the cochairpersons.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
2 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
3 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
4 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
5 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
6 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the
7 committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official
8 Code of Georgia Annotated. Citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance in the
9 amount specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
10 Annotated as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees.
11 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
12 appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The expenses and allowances
13 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more
14 than 5 days unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report
15 of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
16 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2003. The committee shall stand abolished
17 on December 31, 2003.