

Senate Resolution 422

By: Senators Zamarripa of the 36th, Williams of the 19th, Johnson of the 1st and Brown of the 26th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Meeting Georgia's Transportation Needs Through the Year 2025 Study
2 Committee; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia is geographically the largest state east of the Mississippi River; and

4 WHEREAS, Georgia's transportation system encompasses 113,655 miles of public roads,
5 4,853 miles of railroad, 103 publicly owned airports, and 4 shipping ports as well as 12 urban
6 transit systems and 82 rural transit systems; and

7 WHEREAS, meeting the transportation needs of Georgia's citizens is a key factor in the
8 state's continued economic development; and

9 WHEREAS, the goals of the Statewide Transportation Plan are to preserve the existing
10 system, enhance safety, reduce congestion, improve levels of service, facilitate interregional
11 connectivity, improve access and mobility, facilitate economic growth, and enhance quality
12 life; and

13 WHEREAS, funding to meet the transportation goals is derived from a combination of the
14 state motor fuel tax and associated state sales tax, local special option sales tax initiatives and
15 federal matching funds, and is expected to provide approximately \$36 billion between 2001
16 and 2025; and

17 WHEREAS, plans to maintain the state's existing transportation capabilities and to meet
18 projected demand through new and enhanced programs and facilities are projected to cost
19 over \$51 billion over that same quarter century, leaving a funding gap of over \$15 billion;
20 and

21 WHEREAS, state funding for transportation has been running at one-half of the national
22 average on a per mile traveled basis; and

1 WHEREAS, the existing sources of funding for transportation have declined by about
2 one-half due to inflation and the improved fuel efficiency of vehicles.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
4 Meeting Georgia's Transportation Needs Through the Year 2025 Study Committee to be
5 composed of five members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on
6 Assignments. The Senate Committee on Assignments shall designate a member of the
7 committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the
8 committee.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
10 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
11 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
12 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
13 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
14 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
15 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
16 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
17 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
18 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
19 appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
20 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
21 made on or before December 1, 2003. The committee shall stand abolished on December
22 1, 2003.