

Senate Resolution 234

By: Senators Lamutt of the 21st, Golden of the 8th and Thompson of the 33rd

**AS PASSED**

A RESOLUTION

PART I

1 Creating the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Joint Study Committee; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, it is among the purposes of the laws of this state which require the setting aside  
4 of employment reserves to be used for the benefit of persons unemployed through no fault  
5 of their own to promote the public good and general welfare by the systematic accumulation  
6 of funds during periods of employment thus maintaining purchasing power and limiting  
7 serious social consequences; and

8 WHEREAS, there is a need to review such laws to determine whether any reform, revision,  
9 or modernization of such laws is necessary and appropriate under current economic  
10 conditions so as to improve the accessibility and effectiveness of this state's unemployment  
11 insurance program.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
13 GEORGIA that there is created the Unemployment Insurance Trust Fund Joint Study  
14 Committee to be composed of 13 members as follows: three members of the House of  
15 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; three members  
16 of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments; three members of the  
17 general public appointed by the Governor; three members of the general public appointed by  
18 the Commissioner of Labor; and the Commissioner of Labor as an ex officio member. The  
19 Speaker and the Senate Committee on Assignments shall each designate one of such  
20 members as cochairperson. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
22 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action  
23 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
24 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or

1 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
2 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the  
3 committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official  
4 Code of Georgia Annotated. Citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance in the  
5 amount specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia  
6 Annotated as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees.  
7 Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members, and state  
8 employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee, but they shall  
9 be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties as members  
10 of the committee in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities  
11 as state officials or employees. The funds necessary for the reimbursement of the expenses  
12 of state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees shall come from funds  
13 appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective departments. All other funds  
14 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated  
15 to the House of Representatives and the Senate. The expenses and allowances authorized by  
16 this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days  
17 unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its  
18 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report  
19 shall be made on or before December 31, 2003. The committee shall stand abolished on  
20 December 31, 2003.

21 PART II

22 Creating the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund Joint Study Committee; and for other purposes.

23 WHEREAS, the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund was created to encourage employment of  
24 handicapped persons by providing employers relief from excess liability for compensation  
25 when injury to a handicapped employee merges with a preexisting permanent impairment;  
26 and

27 WHEREAS, a major policy determination is necessary to determine the usefulness and  
28 viability of the fund.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
30 GEORGIA that there is created the Subsequent Injury Trust Fund Joint Study Committee to  
31 be composed of 12 members as follows: three members of the House of Representatives  
32 appointed by the Chairperson of the House Industrial Relations Committee; three members

1 of the Senate appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments; three members appointed  
2 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives representing the insurance industry,  
3 organized labor, and the business community; and three members appointed by the Senate  
4 Committee on Assignments representing the legal profession, self-insured employers, and  
5 the general public. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate a member  
6 of the House and the Senate Committee on Assignments shall designate a member of the  
7 Senate who shall serve as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall meet at the call  
8 of the co-chairpersons.

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 actions  
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. Citizen members shall receive a  
15 daily expense allowance in the amount specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21  
16 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated as well as the mileage or transportation allowance  
17 authorized for state employees. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances  
18 authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the  
19 same for not more than five days. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this  
20 resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and  
21 Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with  
22 suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December  
23 1, 2003. The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2003.