

Senate Resolution 674

By: Senators Kemp of the 46th, Hamrick of the 30th, Hill of the 4th and Williams of the 19th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Improvement of Georgia's Pre-K Program Joint Study Commission; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, more than 566,750 of Georgia's four year-old children have received Pre-K
4 services totaling more than \$2.124 billion; and

5 WHEREAS, the Pre-K Program is funded by proceeds from the Georgia Lottery for
6 Education; and

7 WHEREAS, the members of the General Assembly want to assure the continuing and future
8 availability of sufficient funds for the Pre-K Program.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
10 GEORGIA that there is created the Improvement of Georgia's Pre-K Program Joint Study
11 Commission to be composed of 20 members. The Senate Committee on Assignments shall
12 appoint four members of the Senate as members of the commission and shall designate one
13 of such members as cochairperson. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall
14 appoint four members of the House of Representatives as members of the commission and
15 shall designate one of such members as cochairperson. The Governor shall appoint eight
16 members of the commission which shall include: two members with expertise relating to
17 early education; one private for profit Pre-K program teacher; one public nonprofit Pre-K
18 program teacher; one parent of a child attending a for profit Pre-K program; one parent of
19 a child attending a public nonprofit Pre-K program; the director of a private for profit Pre-K
20 program; and the director of a public nonprofit Pre-K program. The director of the Office
21 of School Readiness, director of the Georgia Lottery Corporation, the director of the Georgia
22 Student Finance Commission, and the state school superintendent shall also serve.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
24 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action

1 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate to improve the Pre-K
2 program for the future. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at
3 such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and
4 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this
5 resolution. The legislative members of the commission shall receive the allowances provided
6 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. Citizen members
7 shall receive a daily expense allowance in the amount specified in subsection (b) of Code
8 Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated as well as the mileage or
9 transportation allowance authorized for state employees. Members of the commission who
10 are state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees shall receive no
11 compensation for their services on the commission, but they shall be reimbursed for expenses
12 incurred by them in the performance of their duties as members of the commission in the
13 same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or
14 employees. The funds necessary for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials,
15 other than legislative members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to
16 or otherwise available to their respective departments. The University of Georgia Carl
17 Vinson Institute of Government and legislative staff support services are authorized and
18 directed to provide clerical and staff support to the commission. Employees of the
19 University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government and of the General Assembly
20 shall receive no additional compensation for their services to the commission, but they shall
21 be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their duties for the
22 commission in the same manner as they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as
23 state employees. All other funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall
24 come from funds appropriated to the Senate and House of Representatives. The expenses
25 and allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the
26 commission for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. In the event the
27 commission makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for
28 proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2004. The
29 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2004.