

Senate Resolution 871

By: Senator Adelman of the 42nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on the Health Effects of Pesticides on Children and Safe
2 and Effective Alternatives to Pesticides; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, childhood cancer is continuing to increase at the alarming rate of 1 percent per
4 year; and

5 WHEREAS, approximately 4,800,000 children in the United States under the age of 18 have
6 asthma, the most common chronic illness in children; and

7 WHEREAS, children are more susceptible to hazardous impacts from pesticides than adults
8 and they spend an average of 6-7 hours per day, 5 days a week in schools; and

9 WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has recommended the use
10 of an integrated pest management system by school districts, which is an effective approach
11 to pest management that emphasizes nonchemical and nontoxic approaches to pest control;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, an integrated pest management system provides long-term health and economic
14 benefits while effectively reducing and eliminating pests; and

15 WHEREAS, pesticides contain toxic substances, many of which may have a detrimental
16 effect on human health and the environment and, in particular, have developmental effects
17 on children; and

18 WHEREAS, citizens of the State have the right to know and make informed decisions about
19 the level of pesticide exposure to them and their children; and

20 WHEREAS, numerous states in this country have adopted statutes requiring schools to
21 implement integrated pest management practices; and

1 WHEREAS, several counties in Georgia have already established policies requiring
2 integrated pest management practices in the schools.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
4 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on the Health Effects of
5 Pesticides on Children and Safe and Effective Alternatives to Pesticides to be composed of
6 ten members. The Senate Committee on Assignments shall appoint five members of the
7 Senate as members of the committee and shall designate one of such members as
8 cochairperson. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of
9 the House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one of such
10 members as cochairperson. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
12 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
13 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
14 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
15 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
16 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the
17 committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official
18 Code of Georgia Annotated. All funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
19 resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of
20 Representatives. The expenses and allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be
21 received by any member of the committee for more than three days unless additional days
22 are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
23 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
24 made on or before December 31, 2004. The committee shall stand abolished on December
25 31, 2004.