

House Resolution 1536

By: Representatives Stanley-Turner of the 43rd, Post 2, Beasley-Teague of the 48th, Post 2, Henson of the 55th, Cooper of the 30th, Thomas of the 43rd, Post 1, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Adult and Childhood Obesity and Prevention; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, obesity is a serious medical condition affecting up to one-third of all
4 Americans; and

5 WHEREAS, obesity is known to cause or exacerbate a number of serious disorders including
6 hypertension, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, respiratory dysfunction, gout,
7 and osteoarthritis; and

8 WHEREAS, obesity ranks second only to smoking as a preventable cause of death; and

9 WHEREAS, a study of the effectiveness of existing methods of treatment and prevention of
10 adult and childhood obesity, of the fiscal impact of treatment and prevention of obesity, and
11 the potential reduction in serious medical conditions associated with diabetes that results
12 from treatment and prevention of adult and childhood obesity would be beneficial to
13 determine future legislative and administrative strategies to address adult and childhood
14 obesity; and

15 WHEREAS, education, prevention, and proper treatment of obesity can reduce health care
16 costs and improve the quality of life for a significant number of adults and children in
17 Georgia.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
19 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Adult and Childhood Obesity
20 and Prevention to be composed of 18 members. The Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives shall appoint four members of the House of Representatives as members of
22 the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson. The President of
23 the Senate shall appoint four members of the Senate as members of the committee and shall

1 designate one of such members as cochairperson. The Speaker of the House of
2 Representatives shall appoint five additional members of the committee who shall include
3 a dietician, a public school administrator, and a representative of a cancer society, a heart
4 association, and a public health organization. The President of the Senate shall appoint five
5 additional members of the committee who shall include a nutritionist, a public school health
6 professional, and a representative of a diabetes association, an organization of osteopathic
7 physicians, and a parent-teacher organization. The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of
8 the committee.

9 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
10 needs, and issues mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
11 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate to address adult and
12 childhood obesity and prevention in the State of Georgia. The committee may conduct such
13 meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable
14 it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the
15 objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the committee shall
16 receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
17 Annotated. Citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance in the amount specified
18 in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated as well
19 as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees. All other funds
20 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated
21 to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The expenses and allowances authorized by
22 this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days
23 unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its
24 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
25 shall be made on or before December 31, 2004. The committee shall stand abolished on
26 December 31, 2004.