

The House Committee on Governmental Affairs offers the following substitute to SR 23:

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Jasper Port Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Port of Savannah was the site of the establishment of the Colony of Georgia;
- 3 and
- 4 WHEREAS, the Savannah River is the navigable river that serves the Port of Savannah; and
- 5 WHEREAS, the State of South Carolina borders the northern side of the Savannah River;
- 6 and
- 7 WHEREAS, Jasper County, South Carolina, borders the Savannah River on the north; and
- 8 WHEREAS, both the State of Georgia and the State of South Carolina have established port
- 9 authorities to govern all port related activities in their states; and
- 10 WHEREAS, competition for shipping business has been a long accepted tradition between
- 11 the Port of Savannah and the Port of Charleston; and
- 12 WHEREAS, both states are intent on supporting the future development of their respective
- 13 ports; and
- 14 WHEREAS, both the State of Georgia and the State of South Carolina are dependent on the
- 15 economic benefits derived from the activities of each respective port authority; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the ever increasing size of ships is requiring both ports to continually deepen
- 17 the respective rivers which serve their ports; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the environmental factors affected by such river deepening are becoming a
- 19 major obstacle to be overcome by each port prior to deepening its respective port rivers; and

1 WHEREAS, there may be certain benefits to be realized by both states sharing information
2 regarding a proposed port operation on both the north and south sides of the Savannah River;
3 and

4 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of both states to cooperate with each other's economic
5 activities along their common border.

6 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
7 GEORGIA that there is created the Jasper Port Study Committee to be composed of three
8 members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments, three
9 members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
10 Representatives, and three citizens to be appointed by the Governor.

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 for the purpose of
13 recommending any legislation or other action the committee deems necessary or appropriate,
14 including the need for the State of Georgia to maintain its obligation to the U.S. Army Corps
15 of Engineers to provide an adequate spoil site. The committee may conduct such meetings
16 at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to
17 exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives
18 and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the committee shall receive the
19 allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
20 Citizen members shall receive a daily expense allowance in the amount specified in
21 subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated as well
22 as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees. All funds
23 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated
24 to the House of Representatives and the Senate. The expenses and allowances authorized by
25 this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days
26 unless additional days are authorized. In the event the committee makes a report of its
27 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
28 shall be made on or before December 1, 2005. The committee shall stand abolished on
29 December 1, 2005.