

House Resolution 1113

By: Representative Ashe of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on the Feasibility of a Children and Youth Cabinet; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia's children are the state's most precious and valued resources; and

4 WHEREAS, many programs exist to support and help Georgia's youth and to address
5 specific problems; and

6 WHEREAS, these programs may prove to be more effective if formally coordinated; and

7 WHEREAS, the problems facing some young Georgians may be better solved through
8 coordination not only between the various agencies and departments of the executive branch
9 but also among the three branches of government; and

10 WHEREAS, a children and youth cabinet established for the purpose of improving the
11 well-being of Georgia's children through collaboration, coordination, and comprehensive
12 planning may be a solution to streamlining services to children and to ensure that Georgia's
13 children and youth are safe, healthy, well educated, and ready for life.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY that there is
15 created the Joint Study Committee on the Feasibility of a Children and Youth Cabinet to be
16 composed of 15 members, as follows:

17 (1) Four members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the
18 House, of whom one shall be a member of the Appropriations Committee, one shall be
19 a member of the Children and Youth Committee, one shall be a member of the Education
20 Committee, and one shall be a member of the Health and Human Services Committee;
21 and four members of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on
22 Assignments, of whom one shall be a member of the Appropriations Committee, one
23 shall be a member of the Education and Youth Committee, and one shall be a member

1 of the Health and Human Service Committee. The Speaker of the House shall designate
2 a member of the House of Representatives and the Senate Committee on Assignments
3 shall designate a member of the Senate to be co-chairpersons of the committee. The
4 committee shall meet at the call of the co-chairpersons; and

5 (2) Seven members consisting of department or division directors who administer
6 services to children and youth to be appointed by the Governor.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the committee shall undertake a study of the
8 feasibility of establishing a children and youth cabinet including but not limited to:

9 (1) The role a children and youth cabinet might play in the ongoing planning and
10 evaluation of programs related to the well-being of children and youth in Georgia;

11 (2) How the cabinet would be created;

12 (3) Creation of a children and youth budget; and

13 (4) Who should serve on the cabinet.

14 In fulfilling its duties, the committee shall consult with such individuals, experts, and
15 organizations as it deems appropriate, including, but not limited to, nonprofit organizations
16 and state agencies serving the needs of children. The committee shall recommend any actions
17 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
18 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
19 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
20 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the
21 committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim
22 legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days. The funds
23 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
24 appropriated to the House of Representatives and to the Senate. The committee shall make
25 a report of its progress, findings, and recommendations, which may include suggestions for
26 proposed legislation, if any, by December 31, 2006. The committee shall stand abolished on
27 December 31, 2006.