

Senate Resolution 1259

By: Senators Thomas of the 54th, Goggans of the 7th, Tate of the 38th and Hill of the 32nd

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Prevention Programs in Health Care; and for other
- 2 purposes.
  
- 3 WHEREAS, research based tobacco use prevention programs have been proven effective in
- 4 saving lives and dollars; and
  
- 5 WHEREAS, the average age of a first-time tobacco user is 13 years old; and
  
- 6 WHEREAS, such programs have demonstrated a particularly high rate of success in reducing
- 7 tobacco usage among middle and high school students; and
  
- 8 WHEREAS, Georgia taxpayers spend nearly \$400 million per year treating tobacco related
- 9 disease for the uninsured; and
  
- 10 WHEREAS, in 1998, the state entered into a settlement agreement with tobacco
- 11 manufacturers to help recover some of the health care costs associated with treating persons
- 12 with health conditions resulting from tobacco use and prevent more health problems in the
- 13 future; and
  
- 14 WHEREAS, Georgia has a network of public and private entities that stand ready to support
- 15 an effective tobacco use prevention model; and
  
- 16 WHEREAS, new prevention models and programs have been implemented across the
- 17 country for which there is now significant evaluation data.
  
- 18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
- 19 Study Committee on Prevention Programs in Health Care to be composed of five members
- 20 of the Senate to be appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments. The Senate

1 Committee on Assignments shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the  
2 committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the issues  
4 discussed above and other related matters and recommend any action or legislation which  
5 the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings  
6 at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to  
7 exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives  
8 and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances  
9 provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The  
10 allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the  
11 committee for more than three days unless additional days are authorized. The funds  
12 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds  
13 appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and  
14 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be  
15 made on or before December 31, 2006. The committee shall stand abolished on December  
16 31, 2006.