

Senate Resolution 283

By: Senator Tolleson of the 20th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Study Committee; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia's thriving and growing economy will result in a doubling
4 of the state's population to over 18 million people by 2030 resulting in land use changes; and

5 WHEREAS, land use changes associated with this growth will occur near the state's water
6 resources and vital natural areas such as wetlands and coastal marshes; and

7 WHEREAS, nonpoint source pollution may have contributed to the impairment of Georgia's
8 water and coastal resources; and

9 WHEREAS, impairment caused by nonpoint source pollution will affect point source permits
10 and may affect waste-water treatment serving growing areas; and

11 WHEREAS, nonpoint source pollution may impact the quality of life for Georgians directly
12 or indirectly using the water resources of the state; and

13 WHEREAS, riparian buffers, control of sediment runoff, and storm-water management,
14 among other techniques, may be effective in preventing nonpoint source pollution; and

15 WHEREAS, as evidenced by the increasing impairment of Georgia's water resources,
16 current state statutes and rules, and local ordinances and practices intended to prevent
17 nonpoint source pollution may not be effective in many areas of the state; and

18 WHEREAS, the General Assembly of Georgia deems it to be of great importance to receive
19 and consider information from the Department of Natural Resources as to the issues relating
20 to nonpoint source pollution and control thereof in this state and any recommendations of the

1 Board of Natural Resources for legislation relating to the improvement of nonpoint source
2 pollution control.

3 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
4 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Study
5 Committee to be composed of ten members. The committee shall consist of the chairperson
6 of the Senate Natural Resources and the Environment Committee, who shall serve as
7 cochairperson of the study committee; the chairperson of the House Committee on Natural
8 Resources and Environment, who shall serve as cochairperson of the study committee; the
9 chairperson of the Senate Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee; the chairperson of
10 the House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs; three members of the Senate
11 to be appointed by the President of the Senate; and three members of the House of
12 Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The
13 cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
15 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
16 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
17 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
18 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
19 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the
20 committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official
21 Code of Georgia Annotated. All funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution
22 shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives. The
23 expenses and allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
24 of the committee for more than ten days unless additional days are authorized. In the event
25 the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for
26 proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 1, 2007. The
27 committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2007.