

Senate Resolution 471

By: Senators Rogers of the 21st, Hill of the 32nd and Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Property and Casualty Rate Regulation; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, property and casualty rates are regulated in a variety of ways by the several
4 states; and

5 WHEREAS, some states' systems rely heavily on state controls over companies' pricing
6 decisions; and

7 WHEREAS, other states allow competitive market forces to determine prices with a
8 minimum of government control; and

9 WHEREAS, public policy should be designed to ensure that all lines of insurance are
10 available and that prices should not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory; and

11 WHEREAS, regulation by the state entails costs which must be borne by the taxpayers; and

12 WHEREAS, regulation also imposes compliance costs on the regulated industry which must
13 ultimately be borne by the consumers.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
15 Study Committee on Property and Casualty Rate Regulation to be composed of five members
16 of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President of the Senate
17 shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson
18 shall call all meetings of the committee.

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
20 needs, and issues mentioned above or related thereto in addition to a study of the various
21 methods by which states regulate property and casualty insurance rates, the effect that the

1 changes made by other states in the method of regulating property and casualty rates has had
2 on the availability and affordability of insurance, and what changes in the laws of this state
3 may be beneficial to Georgia consumers. The committee shall recommend any action or
4 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
5 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
6 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
7 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
8 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
9 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
10 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The
11 funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
12 appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
13 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
14 made on or before the convening of the 2008 session of the General Assembly, at which time
15 the committee shall stand abolished.