

Senate Resolution 1166

By: Senators Staton of the 18th, Rogers of the 21st, Douglas of the 17th and Heath of the 31st

A RESOLUTION

1 To create the Senate Public and Legal Notices Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, for many years, the State of Georgia has utilized newspapers as its primary
3 means of providing the public with notice of governmental actions and legal matters; and

4 WHEREAS, in today's electronic age, the Internet is increasingly becoming the medium by
5 which most people obtain information on a variety of topics including current events and
6 government; and

7 WHEREAS, the subscriber base for many newspapers is decreasing in favor of other media
8 for information distribution; and

9 WHEREAS, the posting of notices of governmental action and notices of legal matters is a
10 matter of no small significance in that such postings constitute notice to all persons of the
11 contents of such notices and the failure of a person actually to view such notices is not a
12 defense to the giving of such notice under the law; and

13 WHEREAS, the posting of such notices fixes certain legal rights and responsibilities and has
14 a significant legal result on the positions of individuals; and

15 WHEREAS, in light of the importance placed on public and legal notices in informing the
16 public of governmental actions and legal matters, a study of the manner of giving such
17 notices is needed.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
19 Public and Legal Notices Study Committee to be composed of five members of the Senate
20 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant Governor shall designate one of the
21 members of the committee to serve as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall
22 call all meetings of the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
2 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
3 or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
4 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
5 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
6 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
7 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
8 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are
9 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
10 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event that the committee makes a report
11 of its findings and recommendations with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
12 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2008. The committee shall stand abolished
13 on December 31, 2008.