

House Resolution 1701

By: Representatives Ashe of the 56th, Thomas of the 55th, Harbin of the 118th, Lunsford of the 110th, Walker of the 107th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Study Committee on Prostitution and the Adult Entertainment Industry;
2 and for other purposes.
- 3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is home to a thriving adult entertainment industry; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Georgia, especially the metropolitan Atlanta area, has become a hub for
5 prostitution, including child sexual exploitation; and
- 6 WHEREAS, a recent study by the Atlanta Women's Agenda found a spatial link between
7 arrests for prostitution of adults and children and the location of adult entertainment
8 establishments; and
- 9 WHEREAS, studies have shown that employees of adult entertainment establishments are
10 at great risk of being recruited into prostitution, of being stalked by customers, and of being
11 subjected to unsafe working conditions; and
- 12 WHEREAS, individuals who are younger than 21 years of age may be especially vulnerable
13 to abuse as employees of adult entertainment establishments; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court, in Young v. American Mini Theaters, Inc.,
15 427 U.S. 50 (1976), and City of Renton v. Playtime Theaters, Inc., 475 U.S. 41 (1986), has
16 recognized that local governments have the right and duty under their police powers to
17 regulate sexually oriented businesses and to control where, when, and how these businesses
18 will locate and operate in order to minimize adverse secondary effects; and
- 19 WHEREAS, additional regulation of the adult entertainment industry may be warranted to
20 minimize adverse secondary effects, including, but not limited to, prostitution and child
21 commercial sexual exploitation.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 there is created the House Study Committee on Prostitution and the Adult Entertainment
3 Industry to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House shall designate one of
5 such members as chairperson. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
7 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
8 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
9 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
10 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
11 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. In conducting such study, the
12 committee may study current law and policy in Georgia and other states and may elicit views
13 from experts in the fields of social work, mental health, public health, child welfare, and
14 juvenile justice, as well as input from child victims and adult survivors of commercial sexual
15 exploitation and current and former employees of the adult entertainment industry. The
16 committee may examine recent policy and social science reports on the relationship between
17 the adult entertainment industry and secondary adverse effects, including, but not limited to,
18 prostitution and child commercial sexual exploitation and its effect on community safety.
19 The members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section
20 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. All funds necessary to carry out the
21 provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the House of
22 Representatives. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
23 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. In
24 the event the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with
25 suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December
26 1, 2008. The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2008.