

House Resolution 1609 (RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Casas of the 103rd, Stephens of the 164th, Parrish of the 156th, Horne of the 71st, Smith of the 129th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Trade, Travel, and Security between Georgia and
2 Western Hemisphere Trade Partners; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the United States, and Georgia particularly, enjoy a healthy and prosperous
4 economic relationship with our western hemisphere neighbors; and

5 WHEREAS, concerns have surfaced relating to the increasing costs and delays associated
6 with crossing the border, including the entrance into the United States through our ports of
7 entries, such as airports and ports; and

8 WHEREAS, Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport in Atlanta and the Port of Savannah
9 are among the busiest points of entry in the United States; and

10 WHEREAS, while in the post 9/11 world, any policy approach towards entry into the United
11 States must first and foremost take into consideration security, work can be done so as to
12 balance security concerns with those of trade; and

13 WHEREAS, as one of the nation's economic and trade centers, Georgia should be at the
14 forefront of developing policy at the state level to further the efficiency of trade between us
15 and our neighbors.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 there is created the House Study Committee on Trade, Travel, and Security between Georgia
18 and its Western Hemisphere Trade Partners to be composed of six members of the House of
19 Representatives who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The
20 Speaker of the House shall select one of the members appointed as the chairperson of the
21 committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the impact of
2 the costs of trade, travel, and security on Georgia and its western hemisphere trade partners.
3 The committee may make recommendations for changes in legislation and in the event the
4 committee makes such recommendations, the committee shall provide copies of proposed
5 legislation to be prepared by the Office of Legislative Counsel.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
7 needs, and issues mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
8 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. The members of the committee
12 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
13 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
14 any member of the committee for more than three days unless additional days are authorized.
15 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
16 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of
17 its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
18 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2008, at which time the committee shall
19 stand abolished.