

## Senate Resolution 1290

By: Senators Balfour of the 9th, Weber of the 40th, Williams of the 19th, Murphy of the 27th, Hawkins of the 49th and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Performance Based Salaries for Teachers; and for  
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, under current Georgia law, teachers are paid pursuant to a salary schedule based  
4 on individual experience and length of satisfactory service; and

5 WHEREAS, it is believed by some that advancing a step on a salary schedule based on years  
6 of employment offers no sense of motivation for educators and that salary increases should  
7 be driven by teacher effectiveness; and

8 WHEREAS, proponents of merit based pay contend that offering increased salaries for  
9 improved student performance provides teachers a financial incentive to further develop and  
10 refine their abilities as educators, which in turn helps their students excel scholastically; and

11 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to examine the issue of compensation for teachers in  
12 Georgia and to determine the potential impact on student performance; student subgroups,  
13 such as special education students; teacher recruitment and retention; teacher morale; and  
14 other relevant factors with the goal of improving the current state of public education in  
15 Georgia.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
17 GEORGIA that there is created the Joint Study Committee on Performance Based Salaries  
18 for Teachers to be composed of 12 members as follows: three members of the Senate to be  
19 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, three members of the House of Representatives to be  
20 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, three local board of education  
21 members to be appointed by the Governor, and three teachers, one each to be appointed by  
22 the Governor, the Georgia Association of Educators, and the Professional Association of  
23 Georgia Educators. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the Lieutenant

24 Governor shall each designate a cochairperson from among their respective appointees. The  
25 committee shall meet at the call of the cochairpersons.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
27 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action  
28 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
29 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
30 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
31 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee  
32 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative  
33 committees from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate but  
34 shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The  
35 funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
36 appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate. In the event the committee  
37 makes a report of its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed  
38 legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2010. The  
39 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2010.