

The Senate Public Safety Committee offered the following substitute to SR 615:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Georgia State Fire Services Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, several state agencies, councils, and departments play a key role in this state's
3 fire safety system, and together, they help protect the citizens of the State of Georgia from
4 dangerous fire hazards; and

5 WHEREAS, such fire service entities provide an essential government function for the safety
6 and welfare of Georgia residents by administering and regulating safety codes and standards,
7 implementing training programs, as well as providing important emergency rescue services;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the current system for administering such fire services spreads these functions
10 over a variety of state agencies and departments which may limit communication between
11 the entities, duplicate administrative services, and may not be the best utilization of this
12 state's valuable and limited fire safety resources; and

13 WHEREAS, combining state fire services may help to eliminate confusion, create
14 consistencies, and avoid delays in the administration of services, preserve state resources and
15 funds, and better provide training and education for fire officials and the public.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
17 Georgia State Fire Services Study Committee to be composed of five members of the Senate,
18 to be appointed by the President of the Senate and it is recommended that at least one
19 appointed member shall be a member or the chairperson of the Senate Public Safety
20 Committee. The President of the Senate shall designate a committee member from the
21 Senate who shall serve as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall meet at the call
22 of the chairperson.

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
24 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
25 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
26 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
27 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
28 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
29 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
30 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are
31 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
32 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its
33 findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report
34 shall be made on or before December 31, 2009. The committee shall stand abolished on
35 December 31, 2009.