

Senate Resolution 595

By: Senators Hill of the 4th, Weber of the 40th and Moody of the 56th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Regional Educational Service Agencies; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a state-wide network of regional educational service agencies has been
4 established by the State Board of Education pursuant to state law for the purposes of
5 providing shared services designed to improve the effectiveness of educational programs and
6 services to local school systems, providing instructional programs directly to selected public
7 school students in the state, and providing Georgia Learning Resources System services; and

8 WHEREAS, under current law, all local school systems, Technical College System of
9 Georgia facilities and institutions, and University System of Georgia facilities and
10 institutions that are located in each designated geographical area are required to be members
11 of the appropriate regional educational service agency; and

12 WHEREAS, the shared services that each regional educational service agency is required to
13 provide to local school systems includes:

- 14 (1) Identifying or conducting research related to educational improvements and in
15 planning for the implementation of such improvements;
- 16 (2) Developing and implementing staff development programs with an emphasis on
17 improving student achievement and school accountability;
- 18 (3) Developing and implementing curricula and instruction of the highest quality possible,
19 including implementing the uniformly sequenced core curriculum adopted by the state
20 board;
- 21 (4) Developing and implementing academic assessment and evaluation programs;
- 22 (5) Identifying and utilizing electronic technology, including computers, in an effort to
23 improve the quality of classroom instruction as well as classroom, school, and school
24 system management;
- 25 (6) Developing programs, resource materials, and staff development services relating to
26 instruction on alcohol and drug abuse; and

27 (7) Assistance in the development and implementation of a state-wide mentoring program;
28 and

29 WHEREAS, regional educational service agencies are funded through appropriations by the
30 General Assembly and payments from local school systems; and

31 WHEREAS, in these economic times, it is prudent to consider and study the continued
32 mandatory nature of regional educational service agencies and the required membership by
33 local school systems and public postsecondary institutions as well as the continued funding
34 by the state of these regional educational service agencies.

35 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
36 Study Committee on Regional Educational Service Agencies to be composed of five
37 members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President of the
38 Senate shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee. The
39 chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

40 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the above
41 issues and recommend any actions or legislation that the committee deems necessary or
42 appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as
43 it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers,
44 perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The
45 members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members
46 of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days
47 unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
48 resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event that the
49 committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations with suggestions for proposed
50 legislation, if any, such report shall be made on or before December 31, 2009. The
51 committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2009.