

Senate Resolution 1053

By: Senators Loudermilk of the 52nd, Albers of the 56th, Rogers of the 21st, Williams of the 19th and Cowser of the 46th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Science and Technology Innovation Study Commission; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the field of science and technology is an important and growing sector of the
4 state economy; and

5 WHEREAS, it is imperative that the state develop policies to encourage and facilitate the
6 growth and vigor of this vital field; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia ranks 25th out of all states on the 2010 State Science and Technology
8 Index and 19th out of all states on the 2010 State New Economy Index; and

9 WHEREAS, the General Assembly created the Science and Technology Strategic Initiative
10 Joint Study Commission in 2011 to study the need for a strategic plan for science and
11 technology; and

12 WHEREAS, the commission found substantial support and need for the development of a
13 strategic plan for science and technology.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
15 Science and Technology Innovation Study Commission to be composed of the chairperson
16 and vice chairperson of the Senate Science and Technology Committee, who shall serve as
17 the cochairpersons of the commission; a member of the Senate to be appointed by the
18 President of the Senate; and members of the private sector, state agencies, academia, and
19 nonprofit and other sectors to be appointed by the cochairpersons based upon their expertise.
20 The commission may establish various subcommittees with subject matter expertise to advise
21 the commission on specific matters, which shall be chaired by a member of the study
22 commission. Members of the subcommittees must be experts from Georgia's science and
23 technology community.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall:

- 25 (1) Determine the scope of Georgia's Science and Technology Strategic Plan based on
26 inventory of Georgia's existing assets. Topics may include, but are not limited to,
27 specific sectors such as health information technology, financial technology, advanced
28 manufacturing, information security, and biotechnology. Topics may also include
29 foundational or cross-cutting issues such as STEM (science, technology, engineering, and
30 mathematics) education, workforce development, research and development,
31 infrastructure, venture capital, and entrepreneurship;
- 32 (2) Draft a strategic plan that creates a vision for Georgia's future and the role the field
33 of science and technology can serve to foster job creation, economic growth, and
34 innovation. The plan should consider the state's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and
35 threats. This plan should take into consideration urban and rural communities, as well
36 as socio-economic factors such as education levels, gender, race, and ethnicity;
- 37 (3) The plan shall use the information gathered and recommendations made by the 2011
38 Science and Technology Strategic Initiative Joint Study Commission to help guide its
39 direction;
- 40 (4) Share the draft with Georgia's science and technology community; and
- 41 (5) Designate implementing entities to execute the plan.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all executive departments, agencies, boards, and
43 commissions and other divisions of the executive branch of state government shall fully
44 cooperate with the commission, and any nonprofit entities designated by the commission that
45 promote and support technology initiatives may assist the commission in the performance
46 of its duties and may provide staff assistance and any other assistance as requested.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission shall undertake a study of the
48 conditions, needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend
49 any actions or legislation that the commission deems necessary or appropriate. The
50 commission may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
51 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its
52 duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative
53 members of the commission shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members
54 of interim legislative committees. The members of the commission shall serve without
55 compensation. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
56 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. No later than January 12, 2015, the commission

57 shall submit its recommendations for the development of a strategic plan to the President of
58 the Senate. The commission shall stand abolished on January 12, 2015.