

House Resolution 1675

By: Representatives Hugley of the 133rd, Abrams of the 84th, and Williams of the 165th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Compensation for the Convicted Innocent; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly considers resolutions authorizing and directing the
4 Department of Administrative Services to pay compensation to individuals in this state who
5 have suffered conviction, incarceration, and subsequent loss of liberty and other damages
6 through no fault or negligence of their own; and

7 WHEREAS, the amount of compensation awarded in such resolutions differ greatly; and

8 WHEREAS, there is not currently a methodology being consistently utilized to assess and
9 determine a fair and adequate amount to compensate an individual for loss of liberty,
10 personal injury, lost wages, injury to reputation, emotional distress, loss of consortium, loss
11 of familial association, and other damages as a result of years of incarceration and expenses
12 incurred in trying to prove his or her innocence; and

13 WHEREAS, there is a need for thoughtful and careful consideration and meaningful study
14 to develop a standardized process and method for determining adequate and appropriate
15 compensation for such loss and expenses experienced by the innocent citizens of this state.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 the House Study Committee on Compensation for the Convicted Innocent is created, to be
18 composed of three members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker
19 of the House of Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee
20 as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
22 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action
23 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may

24 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
25 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
26 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
27 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
28 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by
29 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
30 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds
31 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event the committee makes a report of its findings
33 and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
34 made on or before December 1, 2012. The committee shall stand abolished on
35 December 1, 2012.