

House Resolution 1722

By: Representative Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Alternative Living Services Reimbursement Rates;  
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, assisted living is an important component of the long-term care system in this  
4 country and has proven itself to be a vital, cost effective alternative to more expensive health  
5 care regimes; and

6 WHEREAS, in Georgia, assisted living for Medicaid beneficiaries is referred to as alternative  
7 living services and is authorized through Georgia's Medicaid Home and Community Based  
8 waiver programs providing 24 hour supervision, medically oriented personal care, periodic  
9 nursing supervision, and health related support services in a residential setting other than the  
10 individual's personal home; and

11 WHEREAS, the current daily reimbursement rate for alternative living services is \$35.04,  
12 an amount that suppresses the number of beds available to Medicaid beneficiaries; and

13 WHEREAS, assisted living services are significantly underfunded in Georgia and the current  
14 low rate limits the availability of options for persons who would choose to remain in the  
15 community or return to the community from a health care facility; and

16 WHEREAS, there is a need for thoughtful and careful consideration and meaningful study  
17 as to increasing the assisted living services reimbursement rate.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
19 there is created the House Study Committee on Alternative Living Services Reimbursement  
20 Rates to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives appointed by the  
21 Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
22 designate one of the appointees to serve as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson  
23 shall call all meetings of the committee.

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
25 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action  
26 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
27 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
28 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
29 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee  
30 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of  
31 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by  
32 any member of the committee for more than three days unless additional days are authorized.  
33 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds  
34 appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of  
35 its findings and recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such  
36 report shall be made on or before December 15, 2012. The committee shall stand abolished  
37 on December 15, 2012.