

Senate Resolution 345

By: Senators McKoon of the 29th, Unterman of the 45th, Shafer of the 48th, Gooch of the 51st and Dugan of the 30th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Select Alternative Funding for Medicaid and Other Health Care Federal
2 Funding Committee; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, dependence on federal health care funding can adversely affect the state budget,
4 if the source of federal health care funding is lessened or eliminated; and

5 WHEREAS, identifying the areas and amounts of federal health care funds used to assist in
6 balancing the budget of the State of Georgia is essential before a plan to offset the effects of
7 a decrease or elimination of federal health care funding occurs; and

8 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the most effective way to manage the state
9 budget and develop a plan for Georgia in the event of a loss of significant amounts of federal
10 health care funds.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
12 Select Alternative Funding for Medicaid and Other Health Care Federal Funding Committee
13 to be composed of nine members as follows:

14 (1) Four members of the Senate, including members from different political parties,
15 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor based on seniority;

16 (2) A representative of a nonprofit or charitable organization appointed by the Governor;

17 (3) A representative of an advocacy organization focused on state and federal fiscal
18 matters appointed by the Governor;

19 (4) A representative of the Senate Budget Office appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

20 (5) A representative of the Office of Treasury and Fiscal Services appointed by the
21 Governor; and

22 (6) The chairperson of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

23 The President of the Senate shall designate a chairperson from among the Senate
24 appointees. The committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a comprehensive study
26 of the percentage of the state budget for health care that is funded by federal money, and the
27 effects on the state budget if federal fiscal policy necessitates a significant reduction in or
28 elimination of federal funding for health care for state governments. The committee shall
29 create a plan to address the loss of federal money, including federal Medicaid matching
30 money and other health care funding, and maintain benefit programs and other essential state
31 services if federal fiscal policy necessitates a significant reduction in or elimination of federal
32 funding for state governments. The committee shall also include in its final report any
33 recommendations for changes to state law. The committee may conduct its meetings at such
34 places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully
35 and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes
36 of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for
37 legislative members of interim legislative committees from the funds appropriated to the
38 Senate but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are
39 authorized. The committee is directed to make a report of its findings and recommendations,
40 with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, not later than December 1, 2013. The
41 committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2013.