

Senate Resolution 1027

By: Senators Beach of the 21st, Hill of the 32nd, Shafer of the 48th, Ginn of the 47th and Albers of the 56th

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the SPLOST Reform Joint Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, local governments are interested in additional flexibility to structure local
3 option sales taxes in a manner that better meets the needs of the local community, including
4 the allowance of fractionalized tax increments; and

5 WHEREAS, local school systems are seeking additional flexibility to allow the use of local
6 sales tax revenues for needs other than capital construction; and

7 WHEREAS, some local governments would like to have the option of working with adjacent
8 local governments on projects of regional significance; and

9 WHEREAS, the General Assembly believes that enhancing flexibility by giving local
10 governments and school systems more options in structuring existing local option sales taxes
11 to better meet local needs is worthy of study and serious consideration; and

12 WHEREAS, these various reform proposals need to be considered as a whole in a unified
13 process because changes in any one area are likely to affect other areas.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
15 GEORGIA that there is created the SPLOST Reform Joint Study Committee to be composed
16 of 17 members as follows:

- 17 (1) The chairperson of the House Ways and Means Committee;
- 18 (2) The chairperson of the Senate Finance Committee;
- 19 (3) Two representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one
20 from each party;
- 21 (4) Two senators appointed by the President of the Senate, one from each party;
- 22 (5) The commissioner of the Georgia Department of Revenue;
- 23 (6) The commissioner of the Georgia Department of Transportation;

- 24 (7) The general manager of MARTA;
- 25 (8) A school superintendent appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 26 (9) A school superintendent appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
- 27 (10) A mayor of an urban community appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 28 (11) A mayor of a rural community appointed by the Speaker of the House of
- 29 Representatives;
- 30 (12) A county commission chairperson of a rural county appointed by the President of
- 31 the Senate;
- 32 (13) A county commission chairperson of an urban county appointed by the Speaker of
- 33 the House of Representatives;
- 34 (14) A representative of the business community appointed by the President of the
- 35 Senate; and
- 36 (15) A representative of the business community appointed by the Speaker of the House
- 37 of Representatives.

38 The committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among the members of

39 the General Assembly appointed to the committee. The committee may elect other officers

40 as deemed necessary. The chairperson and vice-chairperson may designate and appoint

41 subcommittees from among the membership of the committee as well as appoint other

42 persons to perform such functions as they may determine to be necessary and relevant to and

43 consistent with this resolution. The chairperson and vice-chairperson shall only vote to break

44 a tie. The committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson. The committee shall hold at

45 least three public hearings and at least one meeting to discuss and finalize findings. A

46 quorum for transacting business shall be a majority of the members of the committee.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee may conduct its meetings at such places

48 and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and

49 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this

50 resolution. Legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for

51 in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances

52 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more

53 than five days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the

54 provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate and House of

55 Representatives.

56 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall make a report of its findings and

57 recommendations to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of

58 Representatives, and the Governor, with suggestions for proposed legislation, on or before
59 December 1, 2014. The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2014.