

House Resolution 1722

By: Representatives Parrish of the 158th, Stephens of the 164th, Channell of the 120th, and Gardner of the 57th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Study Committee on Medical Education; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, medical professionals form the backbone of the state's health system; and
- 3 WHEREAS, physicians, physician's assistants, nurses, pharmacists, therapists, behavioral
4 health professionals, and other allied health professionals play a critical role in ensuring that
5 all Georgians receive quality health care; and
- 6 WHEREAS, all indicators are clear that demand for and utilization of the services provided
7 by medical professionals will only increase over time; and
- 8 WHEREAS, in-state medical school enrollment has increased by 56.9 percent over the 11
9 year period to 2011, and is expected to increase by an additional 35 percent by 2020; and
- 10 WHEREAS, even with the growth in in-state medical school enrollment, Georgia is still
11 projected to suffer from a shortfall of trained medical professionals for the foreseeable future;
12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, medical education programs are spread among disparate public and private
14 entities; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the state's medical schools are currently training more graduates than existing
16 available residency slots; and
- 17 WHEREAS, numerous studies have shown that the greatest predictor of where a medical
18 professional will establish their practice is where they complete their residency; and

19 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has not undertaken a comprehensive study of the issues
20 surrounding undergraduate medical education, graduate medical education, residency
21 programs, and clinical fellowships since 2007; and

22 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study these and other issues pertaining to medical
23 education; to identify ways to bolster medical education within the state; to identify ways to
24 retain more Georgia educated practitioners; and to determine the best, most efficient means
25 to fund these efforts.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 there is created the House Study Committee on Medical Education, to be composed of seven
28 members of the House of Representatives, to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
29 Representatives. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of his
30 appointees to serve as chairperson of the committee. The committee shall meet at the call
31 of the chairperson.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
33 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
34 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may
35 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
36 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
37 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the
38 committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim
39 legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless
40 additional days are authorized by the Speaker. The funds necessary to carry out the
41 provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of
42 Representatives. In the event that the committee makes a report of its findings and
43 recommendations for proposed legislation, such report shall be made no later than December
44 15, 2014. The committee shall stand abolished on December 15, 2014.