

House Resolution 1723

By: Representatives Welch of the 110th, Weldon of the 3rd, Atwood of the 179th, Oliver of the 82nd, Chandler of the 105th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Licensing and Inspection of Child Welfare
2 Providers; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, licensing and inspection of public and private child welfare providers are
4 necessary to ensure that certain standards of child safety and quality service provisions are
5 upheld by any such public and private entities providing care and placement for children and
6 youth; and

7 WHEREAS, the safety of children is a primary concern for this state; and

8 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of Georgia's existing licensing, inspection, and
9 placement processes for public and private child welfare providers is needed in order to
10 determine whether such processes:

11 (1) Effectively and consistently address the important state interest in the safety of
12 children;

13 (2) Avoid unnecessary state interference in routine operations while ensuring that safe
14 conditions and services are provided to children and youth;

15 (3) Respect and make allowances for the operations of such providers with strong
16 performance records while providing safeguards against harm to children and youth that
17 could arise from a lack of state oversight;

18 (4) Are duplicative or overly burdensome; and

19 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of privatizing foster care is an important component
20 to ensure the safety and welfare of children in this state.

21 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
22 there is created the House Study Committee on Licensing and Inspection of Child Welfare
23 Providers to be composed of seven members of the House of Representatives to be appointed
24 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of

25 the committee as chairperson of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of
26 the committee.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the issues
28 raised herein or related thereto and recommend any action or legislation which the committee
29 deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places
30 and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and
31 effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this
32 resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for by
33 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated but shall receive the same
34 for not more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to
35 carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the
36 House of Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and
37 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be
38 made before December 1, 2014, at which time the committee shall stand abolished.