

House Resolution 395

By: Representatives Greene of the 151st, Nix of the 69th, Pezold of the 133rd, Smith of the 134th, Smyre of the 135th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Georgia-Alabama Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the General Assembly desires to promote cooperative working relationships
3 between the State of Georgia and the State of Alabama, our neighbor to the west; and

4 WHEREAS, the General Assembly desires to foster and encourage good will between the
5 states of Georgia and Alabama; and

6 WHEREAS, the General Assembly desires to provide a formal means for members of the
7 Georgia House of Representatives, members of the Georgia Senate, and their counterparts
8 from the State of Alabama to discuss and review issues that are common to both states and
9 to seek common solutions to common problems.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
11 GEORGIA:

12 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Georgia-Alabama
13 Study Committee.

14 (2) **Members and officers.**

15 (A) The committee shall be composed of (i) all members of the House of
16 Representatives whose districts abut any part of the boundary between the State of
17 Georgia and the State of Alabama; and (ii) all members of the Senate whose districts
18 abut any part of the boundary between the State of Georgia and the State of Alabama.

19 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall designate one of such House
20 members as cochairperson. Any vacancy in the office of such cochairperson shall be
21 filled in the same manner as the original designation.

22 (C) The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall designate one of such Senate
23 members as cochairperson. Any vacancy in the office of such cochairperson shall be
24 filled in the same manner as the original designation.

25 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
26 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
27 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. To the extent practical,
28 the committee shall coordinate its efforts with its counterpart committee from the
29 legislature of the State of Alabama.

30 (4) **Meetings.** The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the committee. The
31 committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
32 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform
33 its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

34 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

35 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided
36 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.

37 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
38 of the committee for more than five days annually unless additional days are
39 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
40 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and Senate.

41 (6) **Report.**

42 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
43 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the
44 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
45 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

46 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
47 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to
48 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

49 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
50 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
51 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed
52 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

53 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
54 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes
55 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

56 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2016.