

House Resolution 450

By: Representatives Turner of the 21st, McCall of the 33rd, Kaiser of the 59th, Stover of the 71st, Spencer of the 180th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Genetically Engineered Foods; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that there is a need to study the issues regarding
4 genetically modified organisms generally and genetically engineered foods in particular; and

5 WHEREAS, the General Assembly further finds that there is a need to examine the need,
6 utility, feasibility, and cost of implementing labeling requirements for genetically engineered
7 foods; and

8 WHEREAS, a thorough examination of the current scientific consensus on the possible
9 benefits or dangers associated with consumption of genetically engineered foods is necessary
10 to determine whether labeling requirements may be in the public interest; and

11 WHEREAS, consumer interest in being able to identify genetically engineered foods so as
12 to enable personal choice should be gauged; and

13 WHEREAS, a survey of current state regulatory requirements regarding labeling fore
14 genetically engineered foods is recommended; and

15 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of proposals from relevant interest groups, government
16 entities, and advocacy organizations in this state is critical to ensure that issues regarding
17 genetically engineered foods are considered and, if noteworthy, subsequently addressed.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

19 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
20 on Genetically Engineered Foods.

21 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of 14 members of the
22 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

23 Representatives, representing each congressional district. At least seven of the members
24 shall be from the minority party. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee
25 as chairperson of the committee.

26 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
27 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
28 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

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

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

34 The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in
35 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances
36 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for
37 more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out
38 the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the House of
39 Representatives.

40 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

52 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the
53 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu
54 thereof.

55 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2015.