

House Resolution 474

By: Representatives Abrams of the 89th, Ramsey of the 72nd, Jones of the 47th, Hugley of the 136th, and Smyre of the 135th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Kinship
2 Care; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that there is a need to study the issues facing
4 grandparents and other family members as primary caregivers and guardians, including, but
5 not limited to, access to services, financial support, and making medical and academic
6 decisions for children in their care; and

7 WHEREAS, the General Assembly further finds that there is a need to examine the
8 administration and effectiveness of state funded programs designed to assist those providing
9 kinship care; and

10 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of government policies and services, proposals from
11 relevant interest groups and advocacy organizations in this state, and best practices from
12 other states is critical to ensure that issues facing grandparents and other family members are
13 considered and addressed.

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

15 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
16 on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Kinship Care.

17 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
18 House of Representatives, including the Minority Leader, and four members to be
19 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. At least two of the members
20 shall be from the minority party including the Minority Leader. The Speaker shall
21 designate the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives as chairperson of the
22 committee.

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

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

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

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

37 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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