

Senate Resolution 412

By: Senators Jones II of the 22nd, Beach of the 21st, Stone of the 23rd, Jackson of the 24th, Rhett of the 33rd and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Cyber Challenge Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the United States Army has announced that it is relocating its Cyber Command
3 division to Fort Gordon in Augusta, Georgia; and
- 4 WHEREAS, cyber attacks constitute a threat to our national security and to the security of
5 the citizens of Georgia; and
- 6 WHEREAS, the quantity and sophistication of cyber attacks have increased over the past
7 several years and are expected to continue to grow; and
- 8 WHEREAS, the cyber threat is growing due to the proliferation of sophisticated malicious
9 software tools and the adoption of new technologies that are vulnerable to cyber attacks; and
- 10 WHEREAS, to combat the threat, Georgia needs to cultivate an active and robust cyber
11 industry; and
- 12 WHEREAS, the cyber security field is a fast-growing industry employing over 75,000
13 people, an industry for which the Bureau of Labor Statistics declares the job outlook to be
14 "better than average"; and
- 15 WHEREAS, the demand for cyber security is growing at 12 times that of the overall job
16 market; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Georgia's business and overall economy is affected by the state's ability to train
18 students and workers in fast growing fields; and
- 19 WHEREAS, a "Cyber Challenge" is a series of online competitions in cyber security for
20 students and job-seekers, which can take many forms; and

21 WHEREAS, many other states have created "Cyber Challenges" to address the issue of cyber
22 security; and

23 WHEREAS, these statewide "Cyber Challenges" have proven to be an effective pathway for
24 students and job-seekers in states such as Maryland, Illinois, New Jersey, and others; and

25 WHEREAS, Georgia does not currently have a Cyber Challenge program and currently lags
26 behind other states in addressing the issue of cyber security; and

27 WHEREAS, there is a United States Cyber Challenge that is a national competition and
28 talent search to find and develop 10,000 cyber security specialists to help the United States
29 regain the lead in cyberspace; and

30 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia does not participate in the United States Cyber Challenges.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

32 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Cyber Challenge
33 Study Committee.

34 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
35 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
36 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

47 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
48 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
49 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
50 appropriated to the Senate.

51 (6) **Report.**

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

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

59 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
60 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
61 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
62 the Secretary of the Senate.

63 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
64 of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

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