

House Resolution 601

By: Representatives Smith of the 70th, Stephens of the 164th, Petrea of the 166th, and Bryant of the 162nd

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Saltwater Intrusion into Coastal Aquifers; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that issues related to this state's water resources are
4 of utmost importance; and

5 WHEREAS, the General Assembly further finds that there is a specific need to examine the
6 issues of saltwater intrusion into coastal aquifers in a deliberate and rational manner by
7 considering saltwater intrusion on the coast in relation to important principles espoused in
8 the state-wide water plan: population forecasts, economic development forecasts, and water
9 quality and quantity needs; and

10 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of saltwater intrusion into coastal aquifers in distressed
11 counties, as indicated by inclusion in the Yellow Zone or Red Zone under the Coastal
12 Georgia Regional Water Plan, will help determine the steps needed to ensure the security of
13 Georgia's coastal drinking water supply for the present and future.

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 Saltwater Intrusion into Coastal Aquifers.

17 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
18 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
19 Representatives. The chairperson of the House Committee on Natural Resources and
20 Environment shall serve as chairperson of the committee.

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

24 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
25 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or

26 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
27 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The committee shall not meet
28 more than five times.

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

35 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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