

Senate Resolution 573

By: Senator McKoon of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Court of Appeals Workload Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, judicial power of this state is, among other classes of courts, vested in the Court
3 of Appeals as provided for by Article VI, Section I, Paragraph I and Article VI, Section V
4 of the Georgia Constitution; and

5 WHEREAS, the composition and divisions of the Court of Appeals are as provided for in
6 Code Section 15-3-1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated; and

7 WHEREAS, as of 2013, the total yearly filing in the Court of Appeals was 3,432 cases; and

8 WHEREAS, study is needed to examine the workload of the Court of Appeals to determine
9 if the composition of the Court of Appeals should be increased to include another division
10 of three judges.

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

12 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Court of Appeals
13 Workload Study Committee.

14 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of three members as
15 follows: the chairperson of the Judiciary Committee and two members to be appointed
16 by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a member of the committee
17 as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

32 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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