

## House Resolution 805

By: Representatives Willard of the 51<sup>st</sup>, Cooper of the 43<sup>rd</sup>, Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Stephenson of the 90<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Certificate of Need Program; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, it is important to periodically assess various existing state programs to  
4 determine whether such programs continue to be viable and effective or whether they have  
5 failed to or ceased to accomplish their original and current policy objectives; and

6 WHEREAS, access to quality health care and the rising cost of such care are vitally  
7 important to the citizens of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study and collect information and data relating to the  
9 effectiveness of the certificate of need program in Georgia and to conduct a comprehensive  
10 review of the program, including but not limited to the effectiveness of the program in  
11 accomplishing its original and current policy objectives, the costs associated with the  
12 program, and the impact on health care and costs of continuing or discontinuing the program.

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

14 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
15 on the Certificate of Need Program.

16 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of nine members of the  
17 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
18 Representatives. The Speaker shall also appoint the following additional nonlegislative  
19 members: (A) a representative of the Georgia Hospital Association; (B) a representative  
20 of the Medical Association of Georgia; (C) a representative of the Georgia Alliance of  
21 Community Hospitals; (D) a representative of HomeTown Health; and (E) a  
22 representative of a cancer destination hospital. Only the legislative members shall be  
23 entitled to vote. The Speaker shall designate one of the legislative appointees as  
24 chairperson of the committee.

25 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
26 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
27 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate, including but not limited  
28 to the following duties:

29 (A) To study and evaluate the effectiveness and efficiency of Georgia's certificate of  
30 need program and any other program or matter related to the cost and quality of health  
31 care in Georgia, as determined by the committee;

32 (B) To undertake a comprehensive review of the certificate of need program, including  
33 but not limited to the effectiveness of the program in accomplishing its original policy  
34 objectives, the costs associated with the program, the benefits of continuing or  
35 discontinuing the program, the financial impact of continuing or discontinuing the  
36 program, and the impact on the quality, availability, and cost of health care if the  
37 program is continued or discontinued;

38 (C) To evaluate and consider the experiences and results in other states which utilize  
39 or have abolished certificate of need programs;

40 (D) To identify findings and conclusions, including but not limited to  
41 recommendations as to whether the certificate of need program should be continued,  
42 discontinued, or modified;

43 (E) To evaluate the impact of continuing or discontinuing the certificate of need  
44 program on providing patient care in trauma care hospitals, critical access hospitals, and  
45 public hospitals;

46 (F) To evaluate the impact of continuing or discontinuing the certificate of need  
47 program on providing service to Medicaid and indigent patients;

48 (G) To evaluate and consider the impact of continuing or discontinuing the certificate  
49 of need program application to destination cancer hospitals; and

50 (H) To make recommendations for proposed legislation.

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

55 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

58 (B) Nonlegislative members of the committee shall receive a daily expense allowance  
59 in an amount the same as that specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of  
60 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation  
61 allowance authorized for state employees.

62 (C) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
63 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
64 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
65 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

66 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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