

The House Committee on Higher Education offers the following substitute to HR 71:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the HOPE Scholarship Program Award Amount for
2 Critical Career Fields; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the HOPE scholarship program plays a significant role in the postsecondary
4 education landscape of this state; and

5 WHEREAS, the HOPE scholarship program has helped many Georgia students attend
6 colleges and universities in this state; and

7 WHEREAS, several career fields in this state suffer, or are forecasted to suffer, from a
8 shortage of persons who have completed the necessary postsecondary educational
9 requirements for such career fields; and

10 WHEREAS, adjustments in the amount of the HOPE scholarship award made to eligible
11 students who pursue certain fields of study at eligible private postsecondary institutions could
12 help produce a workforce that eliminates the shortfall of workers in critical career fields.

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 HOPE Scholarship Program Award Amount for Critical Career Fields.

16 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members to be
17 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows: four members of
18 the House of Representatives, one member from the Board of Regents of the University
19 System of Georgia, one member from the Technical College System of Georgia, and one
20 member from the Georgia Student Finance Commission. The Speaker shall designate a
21 member of the committee who is a member of the House of Representatives as
22 chairperson of the 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, expenses, and funding.**

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

33 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
34 or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the committee,
35 but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the performance of their
36 duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they are reimbursed for
37 expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

38 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
39 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
40 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
41 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
42 employees.

43 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
44 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
45 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
46 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the
47 reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and
48 state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to their
49 respective agencies.

50 (6) **Report.**

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

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

58 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
59 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.

60 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
61 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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