

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism offers the following substitute to SR 113:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Entrepreneur in Residence Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, entrepreneurs are responsible for the creation of thousands of jobs in our
3 economy and are viewed as a key to the economic recovery of Georgia and the nation; and

4 WHEREAS, entrepreneurs can face many obstacles that must be overcome in order to
5 succeed, such as access to capital and markets; however, one of the biggest obstacles to the
6 success of entrepreneurs can be government itself; and

7 WHEREAS, although entrepreneurs can create a product or service that will take off if they
8 can get it to market, they find complying with government requirements to be a daunting
9 process; and

10 WHEREAS, an entrepreneur in residence program would focus attention on ensuring that
11 government is not an impediment to the success of entrepreneurs; and

12 WHEREAS, an entrepreneur in residence program would seek to streamline that process by
13 placing experienced entrepreneurs in government for limited periods of time to help identify
14 and resolve problem areas slowing down entrepreneurs from creating jobs and bringing new
15 products to market; and

16 WHEREAS, an entrepreneur in residence would be an entrepreneur who has successfully
17 started and operated a small business and who appreciates the fact that even with the best
18 business idea one cannot bring his or her idea to market without complying with certain
19 government requirements; and

20 WHEREAS, the entrepreneur in residence program would have two objectives:
21 (1) To identify within government inefficient and overlapping programs that negatively

22 impact entrepreneurs trying to start or expand a business and to recommend solutions;
 23 and
 24 (2) To serve as a visible advocate and mentor for entrepreneurs within government, a
 25 point of contact who knows and understands their needs, concerns, and frustrations with
 26 regard to dealing with government; and

27 WHEREAS, an entrepreneur in residence would:

28 (1) Assist in providing outreach to entrepreneurs and small businesses;
 29 (2) Provide recommendations on ways to streamline and improve government
 30 procedures impacting entrepreneurs;
 31 (3) Recommend ways to improve programs available to entrepreneurs;
 32 (4) Facilitate meetings and forums to educate entrepreneurs on programs and
 33 requirements;
 34 (5) Provide technical assistance or guidance to entrepreneurs in navigating government
 35 programs and requirements; and
 36 (6) Participate in informal working groups of entrepreneurs in residence from various
 37 agencies established to discuss best practices, experiences, obstacles, opportunities, and
 38 recommendations; and

39 WHEREAS, an entrepreneur in residence program would be a simple and powerful way of
 40 bringing into government the types of individuals who have been successful in starting a new
 41 business and who can help support entrepreneurs by making it easier for them to deal with
 42 government.

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

44 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Entrepreneur in
 45 Residence Study Committee.
 46 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
 47 Senate. The President of the Senate shall appoint the chairperson and three members.
 48 The chairpersons of the Senate Economic Development Committee and the Science and
 49 Technology Committee shall serve as members ex officio.
 50 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,
 51 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or
 52 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.
 53 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
 54 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or

55 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
56 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

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

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

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

64 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

78 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2016.