

House Resolution 1365

By: Representatives Clark of the 98th, Yates of the 73rd, Deffenbaugh of the 1st, Prince of the 127th, Setzler of the 35th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Veterans' Health and Employment Initiatives; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 2014, Georgia was home to more than 750,000 veterans; and

4 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly is concerned about the health and well-being of
5 our veterans; and

6 WHEREAS, the health, safety, and employment of our veterans is of the utmost priority; and

7 WHEREAS, numerous state agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses continue to
8 provide employment services and health and wellness programs to our returning veterans;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, many of our veterans acquire a disability, experience depression, posttraumatic
11 stress disorder (PTSD), or traumatic brain injury (TBI); and

12 WHEREAS, the state can assist veterans with finding work, transitioning into the workforce,
13 and helping our veterans build career skills and maintain a healthy, active lifestyle; and

14 WHEREAS, participation in adaptive sports and therapeutic programs not only increases
15 their athletic ability, but can also help reduce depression and other mental well-being issues,
16 as well as increase employability; and

17 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the issue of available resources and programs
18 for veterans in this state and identify increased coordination, possible solutions, or
19 improvements in the delivery of those services.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
21 GEORGIA:

22 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on
23 Veterans' Health and Employment Initiatives.

24 (2) **Members and officers.**

25 (A) The committee shall be composed of 12 members.

26 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint seven members of the
27 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one of such
28 members as cochairperson.

29 (C) The President of the Senate shall appoint five members of the Senate as members
30 of the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson.

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

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

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

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

41 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
42 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
43 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
44 appropriated to the House of Representatives and Senate.

45 (6) **Report.**

46 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
47 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the
48 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
49 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

50 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
51 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph
52 (C) of this paragraph.

53 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
54 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
55 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed
56 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

57 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
58 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes
59 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

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