

Senate Resolution 1019

By: Senators McKoon of the 29th, Parent of the 42nd and Crane of the 28th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Legislative and Congressional Redistricting; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, it is incumbent upon the states to redistrict their legislatures and Congressional
4 delegations in the year following the release of the results of the decennial census; and

5 WHEREAS, in many states, this process has resulted in highly factionalized, partisan map
6 drawing that produces crazy quilt districts and increases confusion among citizens over
7 where their districts are located and who represents them; and

8 WHEREAS, some states have developed methods for redistricting their legislatures and
9 Congressional delegations to minimize this problem by using independent, nonpartisan
10 commissions to implement redistricting or to recommend redistricting plans to the legislature
11 for action; and

12 WHEREAS, dissatisfaction with the current legislative and Congressional redistricting
13 process in Georgia has been expressed by many of our citizens as well as the legislators
14 affected by the process; and

15 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to the State of Georgia to consider alternative methods
16 for redistricting in Georgia.

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

18 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
19 on Legislative and Congressional Redistricting.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
21 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
22 member of the committee as 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 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) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
34 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
35 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
36 appropriated to the Senate.

37 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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