

Senate Resolution 1085

By: Senators Gooch of the 51st, Cowser of the 46th, Beach of the 21st, Williams of the 19th, Albers of the 56th and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Regional Transit Solutions Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, transportation is essential to commerce and the provision of goods and services
3 to the people across this state, to getting Georgia's citizens to the workplace and medical and
4 educational facilities, to the tourism industry, to the freight and logistics industry, and to
5 every facet of the lives of Georgia's citizens; and
- 6 WHEREAS, traffic congestion in metropolitan Atlanta is among the worst in the nation and
7 study is needed to determine what role a region-wide transit system should play in mitigating
8 congestion; and
- 9 WHEREAS, study is required to evaluate and propose regional transit solutions that will
10 advance the metropolitan Atlanta region into the 21st century; and
- 11 WHEREAS, the committee shall consider whether fundamental reforms are necessary to
12 ensure the establishment of a comprehensive region-wide system which will service the
13 growing needs of the metropolitan Atlanta region; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the creation of a new regional transit governance model is an option that should
15 be investigated by the study committee; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the committee shall determine whether one comprehensive regional transit plan
17 will be more beneficial to the state than a county-by-county or city-by-city approach; and
- 18 WHEREAS, the issue of region-wide transit in metropolitan Atlanta is of considerable
19 importance and merits further study by this committee.

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

21 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Regional Transit
22 Solutions Study Committee.

23 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members of the
24 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
25 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

40 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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