

Senate Resolution 1089

By: Senators Henson of the 41st, Jackson of the 2nd, Orrock of the 36th, Tate of the 38th, Seay of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the General Assembly to fully fund disparity studies for all departments and
2 other instrumentalities of state government; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a disparity study is an evaluation of the procurement and contracting practices
4 of state departments and agencies, particularly the use of minority and women owned
5 business enterprises (MWBEs) in Georgia government contracting; and

6 WHEREAS, disparity studies will determine if a statistical disparity exists in the awarding
7 of Georgia's contracts to ready, willing, and able market area MWBEs; and

8 WHEREAS, these studies will be guided by the United States Supreme Court's 1989 decision
9 in *City of Richmond v. J.A. Croson Co.*, 488 U.S. 469 (1989) and its progeny; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia needs to conduct disparity studies to accomplish the following
11 objectives:

- 12 (1) Identify best practices that will help the state build business programs to stimulate
13 the economic growth of local businesses; and
14 (2) Increase participation of MWBEs on the state's contracts; and

15 WHEREAS, three benefits to the state are to:

- 16 (1) Identify best practices to improve the state's contracting process;
17 (2) Increase the number of bidders on the state's contracts; and
18 (3) Lower the state's procurement costs; and

19 WHEREAS, to identify available Georgia state businesses, the state's disparity study
20 consultant will conduct a broad based business outreach program using a thorough data
21 collection process. The state's contract records, certification lists, outreach meetings, and
22 trade and professional association lists will be used to identify available businesses.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
24 will work to ensure that disparity studies for all departments and other instrumentalities of
25 state government are fully funded in the upcoming fiscal year.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
27 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the Governor, the
28 Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.