

House Resolution 1609

By: Representatives Powell of the 32nd and Jasperse of the 11th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Biohazard Cleanup Services; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, numerous companies have been formed and are operating in Georgia to provide
4 cleanup services for medical waste, crime scenes, death scenes, methamphetamine labs,
5 human and animal waste, hoarding situations, and other types of biohazards; and

6 WHEREAS, these companies provide services at times when the people affected by the
7 services are most vulnerable and distracted; and

8 WHEREAS, these companies operate in a largely unregulated environment and could take
9 advantage of the people who contract with them and engage in unfair practices, theft, and
10 filing bogus or distorted insurance claims; and

11 WHEREAS, there are no bonding requirements for such companies to attempt to protect
12 persons who are taken advantage of by unscrupulous companies; and

13 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the House of Representatives to study these
14 companies and their practices to see if any legislation or regulation is needed for the
15 protection of the public.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

17 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
18 on Biohazard Cleanup Services.

19 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
20 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
21 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
22 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 House of Representatives.

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 Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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