

Senate Resolution 1154

By: Senators Miller of the 49th, Unterman of the 45th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Orrock of the 36th and Millar of the 40th

ADOPTED

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Emergency Cardiac Care Centers Study Committee; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, heart diseases are the leading cause of death in the United States and the world;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, nearly half of all cardiac deaths occur suddenly; and

6 WHEREAS, time is of the essence when someone suffers a cardiac event and expedient
7 treatment vastly improves the patient's likelihood of survival; and

8 WHEREAS, Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and automated external defibrillators are more
9 common place; and

10 WHEREAS, Georgia has already implemented a similar program for designating Certified
11 Stroke Centers with improved survivability and livability from patients; and

12 WHEREAS, several other states have implemented a similar program and have seen
13 beneficial results; and

14 WHEREAS, the Senate realizes that while improvements have been made in survivability,
15 it is important that continued efforts be made to improve survivability; and

16 WHEREAS, it is important to study the creation of a designation for Emergency Cardiac
17 Care Centers with certain scientifically validated protocols and procedures to increase the
18 survivability of a cardiac event.

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

20 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Emergency
21 Cardiac Care Centers Study Committee.

22 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members to be
23 appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

24 (A) The chairperson of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee;

25 (B) The commissioner of public health, or his or her designee;

26 (C) A representative from the American Heart Association;

27 (D) A qualified medical doctor with a specialty in cardiology; and

28 (E) An experienced paramedic, or similarly qualified emergency medical services
29 personnel.

30 The chairperson of the Health and Human Services Committee shall serve as chairperson
31 of the study committee.

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

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

39 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

42 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
43 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the
44 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the
45 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they
46 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

47 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
48 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
49 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
50 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
51 employees.

52 (D) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
53 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
54 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
55 appropriated to the Senate; except that funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of

56 state officials, other than legislative members, and for the reimbursement of the
57 expenses of state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise
58 available to their respective agencies.

59 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

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