

## House Resolution 14

By: Representatives Raffensperger of the 50<sup>th</sup>, Ehrhart of the 36<sup>th</sup>, Oliver of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Fleming of the 121<sup>st</sup>, Hatchett of the 150<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on the Creation of High-Tech Health Incubators for Job  
2 Growth for Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, medical innovations serve a vital role in ensuring and improving the health of  
4 all citizens of this state; and

5 WHEREAS, this state may find great economic prosperity through the enhancement of  
6 opportunities for investors to fund and grow Georgia based companies in the high-tech health  
7 industry that generally provide well-compensated employment opportunities; and

8 WHEREAS, Georgia has several unique asymmetrical advantages to other states in America  
9 that include a nexus of medically and technically leading-edge research universities,  
10 including Emory University, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Georgia Institute of  
11 Technology in Atlanta, Georgia; the University of Georgia in Athens, Georgia; Mercer  
12 University School of Medicine in Macon, Georgia; and the Medical College of  
13 Georgia-Augusta University in Augusta, Georgia, and the competitive advantage, currently  
14 not fully activated or leveraged for economic and job growth with more than 5,000  
15 professionals with advanced M.D. or Ph.D. degrees at the Centers for Disease Control and  
16 Prevention, the world's leading research facility of its type; and

17 WHEREAS, it is highly desirable to encourage and promote the continued growth and  
18 success of the high-tech health industry in this state; and

19 WHEREAS, for the purposes of determining an appropriate plan of action and  
20 recommendations for the State of Georgia to align the incentives of potential innovators,  
21 research institutions, and universities to capture this economic and business opportunity for  
22 the citizens of the State of Georgia, it would be beneficial to review the strengths and  
23 weaknesses of new and current methods to promote and create incubators for job growth in  
24 the high-tech health industry.

25 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
26 GEORGIA:

27 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on  
28 the Creation of High-Tech Health Incubators for Job Growth for Georgia.

29 (2) **Members and officers.**

30 (A) The committee shall be composed of 18 members.

31 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint six members of the  
32 House of Representatives as members of the committee, at least one of which shall be  
33 a member of the minority caucus, and shall designate one of such members as  
34 cochairperson.

35 (C) The President of the Senate shall appoint six members of the Senate as members  
36 of the committee, at least one of which shall be a member of the minority caucus, and  
37 shall designate one of such members as cochairperson.

38 (D) The Governor shall appoint six members as follows:

39 (i) One representative from the Department of Community Health;

40 (ii) One member representing medical research universities;

41 (iii) One member representing the medical research industry;

42 (iv) One physician;

43 (v) One member of the financial industry actively engaged in investing in growth  
44 opportunities in health technology advancements; and

45 (vi) One consumer member.

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

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

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

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

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

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

66 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received  
67 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are  
68 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
69 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and Senate; except that funds  
70 for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members,  
71 and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to  
72 their respective agencies.

73 **(6) Report.**

74 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
75 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the  
76 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
77 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

78 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
79 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph  
80 (C) of this paragraph.

81 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
82 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
83 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed  
84 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

85 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk  
86 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes  
87 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

88 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2017.