

House Resolution 514

By: Representatives Waites of the 60th, Gardner of the 57th, and Thomas of the 56th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Water Desalination; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the task of securing sustainable water sources for Georgia while improving and
3 preserving the quality of coastal waters, rivers, lakes, and ground water is vital to the
4 citizenry of the state; and

5 WHEREAS, rapid population growth in coastal Georgia, increased tourism, and sustained
6 industrial activity have adversely affected coastal Georgia's water resources and limited the
7 available water supply; and

8 WHEREAS, recent stresses to Georgia's water resources mandate a reexamination of
9 Georgia's water policy in Georgia and the viability of alternative water sources such as
10 purification of sea water through the desalination process; and

11 WHEREAS, desalination may be a potential method to augment water supply sources, to
12 reduce water shortages in future droughts, and to help preserve this valuable resource; and

13 WHEREAS, in light of the above issues it is now time to study the viability of using
14 desalination in Georgia.

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

16 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
17 on Water Desalination.

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

19 (A) The committee shall be composed of five members.

20 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of the
21 House of Representatives and shall designate one of such members as chairperson.

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

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

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

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

32 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
33 of the committee for more than five days annually unless additional days are
34 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
35 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives.

36 (6) **Report.**

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

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

44 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
45 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
46 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
47 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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