

House Resolution 630

By: Representatives Fleming of the 121st, Harrell of the 106th, Pruett of the 149th, Bruce of the 61st, and Collins of the 68th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Sentencing Alternatives for Misdemeanors; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the state recognizes that without proper attention and resources, some citizens
4 who are presently misdemeanants could become tomorrow's felons; and

5 WHEREAS, it is highly desirable to review the strengths and weaknesses of various options
6 of alternative sentencing available to courts for misdemeanors; and

7 WHEREAS, the positive impact on the state's economy and public safety derived from the
8 availability of alternative sentencing resources for misdemeanors could be great.

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

10 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
11 on Sentencing Alternatives for Misdemeanors.

12 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
13 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
14 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
15 of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

30 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

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