

House Resolution 634

By: Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Hilton of the 95th, and Coleman of the 97th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Civics Education in Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, civics education remains the essential building block of a well-functioning
4 democracy; and

5 WHEREAS, the Council of State Governments and other national organizations have
6 demonstrated that nation-wide civics education is declining and student comprehension is
7 stagnant or on the decline; and

8 WHEREAS, it is the position of the Georgia General Assembly that Georgia must investigate
9 all possible remedies to this national trend of declining civics education; and

10 WHEREAS, to evaluate whether a recommendation should be made to further strengthen
11 Georgia's standards in civics education, it would be beneficial to:

- 12 (1) Review the current status of civics education in the State of Georgia;
- 13 (2) Review other states' methods for delivering civics education in their respective states;
- 14 (3) Review any work that nonprofit civics education providers are currently doing in our
15 state or nationwide; and
- 16 (4) Make recommendations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the State
17 Board of Education, the State School Superintendent, the Governor, and local boards of
18 education based on such review to ensure that all state standards, curricula, and
19 assessments remain consistent with furthering Georgia's students' civic literacy.

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

21 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
22 on Civics Education in Georgia.

23 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of three members of the
24 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

25 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
26 of the committee.

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

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

34 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive
35 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
36 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
37 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
38 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
39 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

40 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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