

The House Committee on Special Rules offers the following substitute to HR 608:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Georgia Public Schools Calendar; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, mid-summer school start dates potentially cause logistical challenges for
4 working families; and

5 WHEREAS, students are bettered by opportunities to travel, by summer camp experiences,
6 and by family time; and

7 WHEREAS, many companies hire full and part-time summer workers from Georgia high
8 schools and colleges; and

9 WHEREAS, students benefit from employment opportunities available to them during the
10 summer months; and

11 WHEREAS, employers benefit from the ability to employ high school and college students
12 during the summer months; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia schools conduct facility improvement projects during summer break
14 period so as to minimize disruption to student learning; and

15 WHEREAS, providing climate controlled environments for students during the summer
16 months potentially costs school systems considerable financial resources; and

17 WHEREAS, varied school start dates affect both employment and visitation opportunities;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, there is a need to coordinate high school and college or university
20 dual-enrollment program entry times to maximize benefits to the students; and

H. R. 608 (SUB)

21 WHEREAS, the General Assembly needs to study the issue of early school start dates to
 22 determine its social, growth, and economic impact.

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

24 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
 25 on the Georgia Public Schools Calendar.

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

27 (A) The committee shall be composed of nine members as follows:

28 (i) The chairperson of the House Committee on Economic Development and
 29 Tourism;

30 (ii) The chairperson of the House Committee on Education, or his or her designee;

31 (iii) One member of the House of Representatives and one citizen member appointed
 32 by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

33 (iv) One member appointed by the Governor;

34 (v) One member of the Georgia Board of Education appointed by the Governor;

35 (vi) The Deputy Commissioner of Tourism for the Georgia Department of Economic
 36 Development;

37 (vii) The president and chief executive officer of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce,
 38 or his or her designee; and

39 (viii) The president of the Georgia Partnership for Excellence in Education.

40 (B) The chairperson of the House Committee on Economic Development and Tourism
 41 shall serve as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

69 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

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