

Senate Resolution 682

By: Senators Henson of the 41st, Jones II of the 22nd, Tate of the 38th, Seay of the 34th and Williams of the 39th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Traffic Fine Consistency Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, uniform law enforcement across the state is an important policy to create
3 justice, to provide consistency to citizens, and to ensure equity between regions; and

4 WHEREAS, it is important for fines for traffic violations to be solely implemented in a
5 manner that furthers the goals of law enforcement; and

6 WHEREAS, there has not been a comprehensive analysis of how local governments create
7 fine schedules for traffic violations and how those schedules are used and applied in practice;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, the state has an interest in promoting best practices by ensuring that local
10 governments use best practices when determining fines and assisting with the development
11 of such practices; and

12 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of the processes currently used by local governments
13 to determine their fine schedules is needed to determine how such processes align with best
14 practices.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

16 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Traffic Fine
17 Consistency Study Committee.

18 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
19 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
20 legislative member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

29 The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in
30 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances
31 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for
32 more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out
33 the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the Senate.

34 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

46 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
47 of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

48 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2018.