

House Resolution 1052

By: Representatives Buckner of the 137th, Hogan of the 179th, Williams of the 168th, Trammell of the 132nd, Smyre of the 135th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on State Health and Retirement Benefits for Sheriff's
2 Deputies; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Sheriff's deputies do not receive health or retirement benefits from the State of
4 Georgia; and

5 WHEREAS, the people of this state can all benefit from improved compensation and benefits
6 for Sheriff's deputies; and

7 WHEREAS, cost savings for the state, counties, and Georgia taxpayers may be realized by
8 the consolidation of health and retirement benefits for Sheriff's deputies into the State Health
9 Benefit Plan and the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia; and

10 WHEREAS, providing health and retirement benefits through the State Health Benefit Plan
11 and the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia could strengthen both systems; and

12 WHEREAS, Sheriff's deputies would gain great benefit by being able to transfer between
13 counties without losing accrued benefits; and

14 WHEREAS, to determine the costs and benefits of including Sheriff's deputies in state health
15 and retirement systems requires detailed review and communication among various
16 stakeholders.

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

18 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
19 on State Health and Retirement Benefits for Sheriff's Deputies.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of four members of the
21 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

22 Representatives. The Speaker shall also appoint an additional three members of the
23 committee as follows:

- 24 (A) The director of the Employees' Retirement System of Georgia;
- 25 (B) The director of the Department of Community Health; and
- 26 (C) The director of the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund of Georgia.

27 The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

36 (A) Members of the committee who are members of the General Assembly shall
37 receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
38 Georgia Annotated.

39 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than members of the
40 General Assembly, or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their
41 services on the committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them
42 in the performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as
43 they are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

44 (C) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
45 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
46 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
47 appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the reimbursement
48 of the expenses of state officials, other than members of the General Assembly, and for
49 the reimbursement of the expenses of state employees shall come from funds
50 appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

51 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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