

The House Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security offers the following substitute to HR 913:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Incorporating Law Enforcement in the Pathway to
2 Treatment and Social Services for Persons Having Challenges with Drug Use and Mental
3 Health; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, communities across the country are launching pre-arrest diversion initiatives
5 designed to better address law enforcement's encounters with people who have challenges
6 with drug use and mental health; and

7 WHEREAS, policing and the community can be helped when law enforcement can
8 successfully serve as a sizeable pathway to treatment and social services in behavioral health
9 interventions; and

10 WHEREAS, study is needed on strategically widening community behavioral health and
11 social service options available through law enforcement diversion, including, but not limited
12 to, matters of funding, data collection, outcomes, and long-term impact.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
14 GEORGIA:

15 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on
16 Incorporating Law Enforcement in the Pathway to Treatment and Social Services for
17 Persons Having Challenges with Drug Use and Mental Health.

18 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members appointed
19 as follows:

20 (A) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
21 House of Representatives, who shall designate one of their number to serve as
22 cochairperson; and

23 (B) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, who shall
24 designate one of their number to serve as cochairperson.

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

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

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

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

35 (B) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
36 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
37 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
38 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate.

39 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

51 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
52 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes
53 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

54 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2018.