

House Resolution 1257

By: Representatives Petrea of the 166th, Stephens of the 164th, Dempsey of the 13th, Gordon of the 163rd, and LaHood of the 175th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Workforce Shortage and Crisis in Home and
2 Community Based Settings; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, there are well over 10,000 Georgians with physical, intellectual, and
4 developmental disabilities receiving out-of-home care and support in 24 hour, seven days a
5 week residential settings throughout the state, many thousands who participate in day
6 program settings during each weekday, and many thousands who receive care from their
7 family or in their own home; and

8 WHEREAS, all of these citizens, as a result of their disabilities, require the support of direct
9 support professionals and provider agency staff to ensure their good health is maintained and
10 that their medical needs are promptly and properly met; and that they benefit from the skill
11 training supported by the State of Georgia funded residential and day programs; and

12 WHEREAS, all of these citizens require the support of well-trained and skilled personnel
13 from a workforce that is stable and reliable and experiences only a modest turnover rate; and

14 WHEREAS, there is a well-documented shortage of qualified applicants for these vital
15 positions; and

16 WHEREAS, there is a well-documented turnover rate in this workforce with 35.7 percent
17 leaving their positions within six months of hire, and 34.7 percent leaving within 12 months
18 of hire; and

19 WHEREAS, there are developed and effective means of recruitment and retention of this
20 vital workforce which help provide for the health and well-being of individuals in
21 community based intellectual and developmental disabilities services and supports; and

22 WHEREAS, providers of services to Georgians with disabilities have found it difficult and
 23 costly to attract and retain a skilled direct support professional workforce able to implement
 24 the current laws and regulations related to medication administration in home and community
 25 based settings.

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

27 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
 28 on the Workforce Shortage and Crisis in Home and Community Based Settings.

29 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
 30 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
 31 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
 32 of the committee.

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

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

40 (5) **Allowances and funding.** Members of the committee who are members of the
 41 General Assembly shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of
 42 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution
 43 shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days unless
 44 additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this
 45 resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives.

46 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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