

House Resolution 1318

By: Representatives Park of the 101st, Trammell of the 132nd, Alexander of the 66th, Wallace of the 119th, Gonzalez of the 117th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Comprehensive Health and Long-Term Care of
2 Georgia's Aging Population; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the population of Americans age 65 and older is expected to double in the next
4 25 years due to increased life expectancy and the aging of the baby boomers; and

5 WHEREAS, the anticipated growth in the aging population will result in an expected 25
6 percent rise in health care costs by 2030 and as the baby boomers turn 65, the financing of
7 their care will begin shifting from the private sector to publicly financed programs, including
8 Medicaid and Medicare; and

9 WHEREAS, chronic diseases are responsible for seven out of every ten deaths in the United
10 States, resulting in more than 1.7 million deaths every year; they account for more than 75
11 percent of the \$2 trillion spent each year on health care in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, the health of the aging population can be preserved and chronic diseases can
13 be reduced by promoting healthy lifestyles and broadening the use of clinical preventive
14 services is critical to preserving health, maintaining function, and reducing health care costs
15 and long-term care needs; and

16 WHEREAS, social isolation adversely affects the health of the elderly, increasing loneliness
17 and depression that can cause deterioration of the health of the elderly and increase state
18 health care costs; and

19 WHEREAS, the most successful aging in place strategies recognize and build on integrated
20 health and social services; and

21 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to examine these issues, including the critical need to
22 formulate policy that provides opportunities for the elderly to remain vibrant in their homes

23 and communities, which includes considering funding to support community-based programs
24 that collaborate between health care and social service agencies, provide incentives and
25 guidance to local planning boards and other bodies to incorporate community and housing
26 design features for older adults, and consider other policies that ease the burden on families,
27 elderly, and public funding to support aging in place.

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

29 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
30 on Comprehensive Health and Long-Term Care of Georgia's Aging Population.

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

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

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

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

48 (6) **Report.**

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

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

56 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
57 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.

58 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
59 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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