

The Senate Committee on Rules offered the following substitute to SR 1063:

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Certificate of Need Reform; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia's Certificate of Need laws have remained static despite significant  
3 changes in the delivery and cost of health care; and

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5 WHEREAS, hospitals, doctors, and other providers must work together to meet the challenge  
6 of delivering services with better outcomes at a lower cost; and

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8 WHEREAS, Georgia needs additional health care facilities to meet the needs of patients,  
9 particularly in mental health, surgery, and emergency settings; and

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11 WHEREAS, rural hospitals face an ongoing financial crisis, and Certificate of Need policies  
12 should be aligned to support the survival and growth of rural hospitals; and

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14 WHEREAS, reforms should preserve the ability of hospitals to continue to provide open  
15 access to all patients in a community; and

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17 WHEREAS, legislation accomplishing these goals should be recommended by a study  
18 committee and considered by the Georgia State Senate in the 2019 legislative session.

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

20 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee  
21 on Certificate of Need Reform.

22 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of 13 members to be  
23 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor as follows:

24 (A) Five members of the Senate of whom at least three members will have professional  
25 backgrounds in health care and at least two members shall be appointed from the  
26 minority party. The Lieutenant Governor shall designate a member of the committee  
27 as chairperson of the committee.

- 28 (B) A citizen representative who serves in an executive role in a nonprofit health  
 29 system;
- 30 (C) A citizen representative who serves in an executive role in a for-profit health  
 31 system;
- 32 (D) A citizen representative who serves in an executive role in a rural hospital;
- 33 (E) A citizen representative who practices medicine as a full-time employee of a health  
 34 system;
- 35 (F) A citizen representative who practices medicine as an independent physician;
- 36 (G) A citizen representative who has expertise in health care costs and works in the  
 37 insurance industry; and
- 38 (H) Two consumer representatives.
- 39 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs,  
 40 issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any action or  
 41 legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.
- 42 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
 43 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
 44 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
 45 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.
- 46 (5) **Allowances and funding.**
- 47 (A) The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided  
 48 for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated.
- 49 (B) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state  
 50 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that  
 51 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia  
 52 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state  
 53 employees.
- 54 (C) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
 55 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
 56 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
 57 appropriated to the Senate.
- 58 (6) **Report.**
- 59 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
 60 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the chairperson shall file a report of the  
 61 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
 62 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

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

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

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

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