

## House Resolution 935

By: Representatives Tanner of the 9<sup>th</sup>, Trammell of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Smyre of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Carpenter of the 4<sup>th</sup>, and McCall of the 33<sup>rd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics was established in 2019 with  
3 the task of developing a comprehensive, strategic business plan to promote state-wide freight  
4 and logistics infrastructure in order for this state to remain economically competitive; and
- 5 WHEREAS, throughout 2019, the commission met in locations around the state and  
6 identified a need for providing for a system of freight and logistics investment and for  
7 creating efficiency and coordination among providers of freight and logistics in order to  
8 improve mobility across this state; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the commission found that further study is needed to consider unique and  
10 specific solutions for trucking, rail, and air cargo, including reducing the driving risks for  
11 truck drivers and other motorists, expanding dedicated lanes for moving freight, and reducing  
12 traffic impacts in and out of the ports and around key metropolitan areas; and
- 13 WHEREAS, continuing the work of this commission is necessary to determine the best  
14 course of action with regard to funding and policy development relating to freight and  
15 logistics through legislative and budgetary recommendations; and
- 16 WHEREAS, subject to availability of funds from the budget of the Senate and the House of  
17 Representatives, such study may include a contract for the provision of private consulting  
18 and any other services deemed necessary for purposes of addressing the areas identified in  
19 this resolution; and
- 20 WHEREAS, any professionals retained to assist in analysis or consultation pursuant to this  
21 resolution shall be professionals in freight and logistics analysis, with global or national  
22 prominence in the following areas:
- 23 (1) Experience working with multiple freight and logistics providers;

- 24 (2) Experience delivering freight and logistics strategy for multijurisdictional or  
25 state-wide entities;
- 26 (3) Strong financial consulting practices that have applicability to multiple funding or  
27 financial approaches for freight and logistics;
- 28 (4) Approaches to promoting economic development; and
- 29 (5) Demonstrated knowledge and proven experience in strategic development.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

31 (1) **Creation of joint commission.** There is created the Georgia Commission on Freight  
32 and Logistics.

33 (2) **Members and officers.** The commission shall consist of the following members,  
34 who shall, whenever possible, be the individuals appointed to serve on the 2019  
35 commission:

36 (A) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including  
37 the chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee;

38 (B) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the  
39 House of Representatives, including the chairperson of the House Committee on  
40 Transportation;

41 (C) Three members appointed by the President of the Senate who represent entities  
42 which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the operations of a  
43 major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air shipping provider, or  
44 major manufacturing operation based in this state;

45 (D) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who  
46 represent entities which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the  
47 operations of a major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air  
48 shipping provider, or major manufacturing operation based in this state;

49 (E) Four members who each serve as a local government official, with two appointed  
50 by the President of the Senate and two appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
51 Representatives;

52 (F) The executive director of the Georgia Municipal Association or his or her  
53 designee;

54 (G) The executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his  
55 or her designee;

56 (H) The president or chairperson of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce;

57 (I) The president or chairperson of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce;

58 (J) The commissioner of transportation, ex officio; and

59 (K) The executive director of the Georgia Ports Authority, ex officio.

60 The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall each  
61 select a member to serve as cochairpersons of the commission.

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

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

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

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

72 (B) Members of the commission who are state officials, other than legislative  
73 members, or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the  
74 commission, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the  
75 performance of their duties as members of the commission in the same manner as they  
76 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

77 (C) Members of the commission who are not legislators, state officials, or state  
78 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that  
79 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia  
80 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state  
81 employees.

82 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received  
83 by any member of the commission for more than five days unless additional days are  
84 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
85 from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives; except that  
86 funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative  
87 members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise  
88 available to their respective agencies.

89 (6) **Report.**

90 (A) In the event the commission adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
91 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the  
92 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
93 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

94 (B) In the event the commission adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
95 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph  
96 (C) of this paragraph.

97 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
98 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the  
99 commission. A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the  
100 commission and filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of  
101 Representatives.

102 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the  
103 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives a copy of the  
104 minutes of the meetings of the commission in lieu thereof.

105 (7) **Abolishment.** The commission shall submit the report and proposal required by  
106 paragraph (6) not later than December 31, 2020, at which time such proposal shall be  
107 published and the commission shall stand abolished.