

Senate Resolution 959

By: Senators Thompson of the 14th, Jackson of the 2nd, Harbison of the 15th, Cowser of the 46th, Karinshak of the 48th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Systemic Inequalities Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, systemic inequality refers to inequalities that are suffered by identifiable groups
3 of persons and that are structurally rooted in the operations of institutions or in the
4 application of laws or practices; and

5 WHEREAS, study is needed to gather information and to identify any areas where state laws
6 or policies can be revised to address identified systemic inequities.

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

8 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Systemic
9 Inequalities Study Committee.

10 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of the chairperson of the
11 Senate Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security Committee and four members of the
12 Senate who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate.

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

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

20 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

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

23 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
24 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
25 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
26 appropriated to the Senate.

27 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

41 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2020.