

## Senate Resolution 153

By: Senators Harrell of the 40th, Au of the 48th, Jones II of the 22nd, Jordan of the 6th,  
Lucas of the 26th and others

## A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Joint PeachCare Public Option Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, access to quality, affordable health care is a cornerstone of a healthy state and  
3 a healthy economy; and
- 4 WHEREAS, increases in health insurance premiums and deductibles have outpaced worker  
5 earnings and inflation in the United States in recent years; and
- 6 WHEREAS, consumers with employer sponsored health coverage report having problems  
7 paying medical bills or difficulties affording high premiums, deductibles, or copayments; and
- 8 WHEREAS, in 2020, only a small number of Georgia counties had more than two  
9 commercial insurers participating in the Affordable Care Act Marketplace; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Georgia's PeachCare for Kids Program, which extends Medicaid managed care  
11 to low income children, consistently gets high marks for customer satisfaction; and
- 12 WHEREAS, consumers would benefit from greater competition in the individual insurance  
13 marketplace.

14 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
15 GEORGIA:

16 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint PeachCare Public  
17 Option Study Committee.

18 (2) **Members and officers.**

19 (A) The committee shall be composed of ten members.

20 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint five members of the Senate as members  
21 of the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson.

22 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of the  
23 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one of such  
24 members as cochairperson.

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

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

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

38 (6) **Report.**

39 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
40 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the  
41 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
42 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

43 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
44 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to  
45 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

46 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
47 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
48 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed  
49 with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

50 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the  
51 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives copies of the  
52 minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

53 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2021.