

House Resolution 770

By: Representatives Scott of the 76th, Holcomb of the 81st, Williams of the 168th, and Davis of the 87th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on National Guard and Military Reserve Veterans
2 Resources; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the United States Department of Veterans Affairs does not currently recognize
4 National Guard and Reserve veterans or confer veterans benefits to them; and

5 WHEREAS, service members of the National Guard and Reserves are unable to obtain
6 official discharge or release documentation for their service and therefore cannot be
7 recognized as veterans by the Department of Driver Services; and

8 WHEREAS, a study should be undertaken to determine what actions could be taken to
9 recommend ways that National Guard and Reserve service men and women can be
10 recognized as veterans and have access to certain veterans benefits.

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

12 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
13 on National Guard and Military Reserve Veterans Resources.

14 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members as
15 follows:

H. R. 770

16 (A) The chairperson of the House Committee of Defense and Veterans Affairs;

17 (B) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
18 House of Representatives, one of whom shall be designated as chairperson of the
19 committee; and

20 (C) Two members who are active or retired military service members.

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

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

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

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

31 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
32 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the
33 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the
34 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they
35 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

36 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
37 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
38 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
39 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
40 employees.

41 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
42 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are

43 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
44 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the
45 reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and
46 for the reimbursement of the expenses of state employees shall come from funds
47 appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

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. Any member of the committee may file a
60 minority report that shall accompany the majority report.

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

64 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2022.