

The House Committee on Special Rules offers the following substitute to HR 119:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Social Media Platform Accountability; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, censorship of speech constitutes an increasingly common and concerning
4 practice by social media platforms; and

5 WHEREAS social media has an impact on youth health and self-esteem; and

6 WHEREAS, social media platforms have mostly failed to adopt acceptable use policies; and

7 WHEREAS, issues of transparency and disclosure of internal policies and rules by social
8 media platforms merit public scrutiny; and

9 WHEREAS, the public's recourse to improper and inequitable treatment by social media
10 platforms is far from robust; and

11 WHEREAS, state legislators shall review social media's impact on youth health and
12 self-esteem as well as issues surrounding censorship of speech by social media platforms to
13 determine whether legislation is in order.

H. R. 119 (SUB)

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 Study Committee on
17 Social Media Platform Accountability.

18 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of eight members as
19 follows:

20 (A) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint four members of the
21 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one such
22 member as cochairperson; and

23 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint four members of the Senate as members
24 of the committee and shall designate one such member 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, expenses, and funding.**

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

35 (B) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
36 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
37 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
38 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and the Senate.

39 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

54 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2023.