

Senate Resolution 84

By: Senators Harper of the 7th, Kennedy of the 18th, Ginn of the 47th, Mullis of the 53rd,
Jones of the 25th and others

ADOPTED SENATE**A RESOLUTION**

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Airport Infrastructure and Improvements; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the current and future economic health of Georgia relies on thriving airports and
4 an efficient air travel industry; and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia needs a comprehensive, strategic business plan to develop state-wide
6 infrastructure for airports in order for this state to remain economically competitive and to
7 remain a leader in the movement of goods and persons; and

8 WHEREAS, a study is needed to determine the best course of action with regard to funding
9 and policy development relating to airports to ensure that action taken over the next several
10 years will result in the growth and support of this critical industry; and

11 WHEREAS, it is important that such study further emphasizes creating efficiency and
12 coordination among Georgia's air service providers and aviation industry in an effort to offer
13 solutions to improve mobility; and

14 WHEREAS, subject to availability of funds from the budget of the Senate and the House of
15 Representatives, such study may include a contract for the provision of private consulting
16 and any other services deemed necessary for purposes of addressing the areas identified in
17 this resolution.

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

19 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on
20 Airport Infrastructure and Improvements.

21 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall consist of the following members:

22 (A) Four members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
23 the chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee;

24 (B) Four members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
25 House of Representatives, including the chairperson of the House Committee on
26 Transportation;

27 (C) Two members appointed by the President of the Senate with expertise in operation
28 of an airport and with one appointee being a resident of a designated tier 1 county and
29 the other appointee being a resident of a designated tier 4 county;

30 (D) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives with
31 expertise in operation of an airport and with one appointee being a resident of a
32 designated tier 2 county and the other appointee being a resident of a designated tier 3
33 county;

34 (E) The commissioner of transportation or his or her designee, ex officio;

35 (F) The commissioner of economic development or his or her designee, ex officio;

36 (G) The president of the Georgia Airports Association or his or her designee, ex
37 officio;

38 (H) The president of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce or his or her designee, ex
39 officio; and

(I) The executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his or her designee, ex officio.

The chairpersons of the Senate Transportation Committee and the House Committee on Transportation shall serve as cochairpersons of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come

from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives; except that funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

(6) Report.

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

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

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

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

(7) Abolishment. The committee shall submit the report and proposal required by paragraph (6) not later than December 31, 2021, at which time such proposal shall be published and the committee shall stand abolished.