

Senate Resolution 273

By: Senators Albers of the 56th and Robertson of the 29th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate EMS Reform Study Committee; and for other purposes.

- 2 WHEREAS, the furnishing of emergency medical services is a matter of substantial
3 importance to the people of this state; and

- 4 WHEREAS, current Georgia law enables the Department of Public Health to administer and
5 control emergency communications systems throughout the state and, based upon
6 recommendations of a local entity, coordinates the ambulance service in a given area; and

- 7 WHEREAS, emergency medical services may only be provided in an area through the state's
8 Emergency Medical Systems Communications Program (EMSC); and

- 9 WHEREAS, the EMSC Program limits local control and in some instances hinders the free
10 market for the provision of ambulance services; and

- 11 WHEREAS, study is needed to determine what legislative changes to state law relating to
12 the EMSC Program are necessary and feasible.

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

14 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate EMS Reform
15 Study Committee.

16 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
17 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, which shall include the chairperson
18 of the Senate Committee on Public Safety and the chairperson of the Senate Committee
19 on Health and Human Services. The President shall designate a member of the
20 committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

35 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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