

House Resolution 1419

By: Representatives Bonner of the 73rd, Clark of the 100th, Prince of the 132nd, Cannon of the 172nd, and Sainz of the 180th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Assistance Programs for Veterans Applying for
2 Military Benefits; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in the 2024 legislative session, the General Assembly considered multiple bills
4 related to proposed legislation concerning assistance programs for veterans applying for
5 military benefits; and

6 WHEREAS, this state has a large population of military veterans; and

7 WHEREAS, these veterans made significant sacrifices in their service to this country and the
8 people of this state; and

9 WHEREAS, following military service, some veterans face obstacles transitioning to the
10 civilian sector; and

11 WHEREAS, such obstacles may include, but are not limited to, post-traumatic stress
12 disorder, full and partial disabilities, mental or behavioral health challenges, food insecurity,
13 unemployment or underemployment, and other challenges that may make the receipt of
14 military benefits especially important to the well-being of those veterans; and

15 WHEREAS, upon leaving the military, veterans may face offers from multiple persons to
16 provide assistance to veterans applying for military benefits; and

17 WHEREAS, the people of this state want to ensure that our veterans are being treated fairly;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, ensuring that this state's veterans are provided with the military benefits that
20 they have earned is very important to the well-being of veterans and their families; and

21 WHEREAS, federal law partially governs the activities of persons offering assistance to
22 veterans applying for military benefits; and

23 WHEREAS, study is needed to develop potential legislation or other actions that could be
24 taken to ensure that our veterans applying for military benefits are treated fairly and that this
25 state's legislation is well-coordinated with federal law.

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

27 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
28 on Assistance Programs for Veterans Applying for Military Benefits.

29 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
30 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
31 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
32 of the committee.

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

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

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

46 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

61 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2024.