

House Resolution 368

By: Representatives Sainz of the 180th, Werkheiser of the 157th, Stephens of the 164th, Ballinger of the 23rd, and Townsend of the 179th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Intoxicating Cannabinoids in Consumable Hemp
2 Products; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 2018, Congress passed and the President signed into law the Agriculture
4 Improvement Act of 2018, Public Law 115-334 (2018 Farm Bill), which authorized the
5 production of hemp and removed hemp from the federal schedule of controlled substances;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, through the Georgia Hemp Farming Act, approved May 10, 2019 (Ga. L. 2019,
8 p. 1030), the General Assembly authorized the production of hemp in Georgia in accordance
9 with the federal 2018 Farm Bill; and

10 WHEREAS, the definition of hemp in the federal 2018 Farm Bill and the Georgia Hemp
11 Farming Act limits the amount of delta-9-tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-9-THC) that may be
12 present in hemp, but neither Act provides limits on other isomers of delta-9-THC or other
13 cannabinoids; and

14 WHEREAS, by an Act of the General Assembly, approved April 30, 2024 (Ga. L. 2024, p.
15 455), the General Assembly provided regulations on the production and sale of consumable

16 hemp products, but did not provide restrictions on isomers of delta-9-THC or other
17 potentially intoxicating cannabinoids; and

18 WHEREAS, since passage of the 2018 Farm Bill and the Georgia Hemp Farming Act, it has
19 been discovered that many other substances derived from the cannabis plant beyond
20 delta-9-THC may be intoxicating and may have serious side effects. Such substances
21 include, but are not limited to, delta-8-tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-8-THC),
22 delta-10-tetrahydrocannabinol (delta-10-THC), delta-11-tetrahydrocannabinol
23 (delta-11-THC), tetrahydrocannabinolic acid (THCA), exo-tetrahydrocannabinol (exo-THC),
24 THC-O-acetate (THC-OA), THC-O-phosphate (THC-O), tetrahydrocannabiphorol (THCP),
25 tetrahydrocannabivarin (THCV), tetrahydrocannabihexol (THCH), tetrahydrocannabioctyl
26 (THCJD), tetrahydrocannabutol (THCB), cannabinol (CBN), and hexahydrocannabinol
27 (HHC); and

28 WHEREAS, the lack of restrictions on such substances have led to intoxicating and
29 potentially dangerous consumable hemp products being readily available in Georgia and
30 consumed at alarming rates; and

31 WHEREAS, the General Assembly intends to provide restrictions on such substances and
32 other intoxicating cannabinoids so as to protect the citizens of this state from such
33 intoxicating and potentially dangerous substances. However, the General Assembly desires
34 to provide those in the consumable hemp industry, government agencies, law enforcement
35 officers, and members of the public the opportunity to provide comment on such potential
36 restrictions before they are enacted so as to understand the need for such restrictions, how
37 such restrictions should be implemented, and the impact such restrictions may have on the
38 hemp industry in Georgia.

39 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
40 GEORGIA:

41 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on
42 Intoxicating Cannabinoids in Consumable Hemp Products.

43 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of ten members as
44 follows:

45 (A) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint five members of the
46 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one such
47 member as cochairperson; and

48 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint five members of the Senate as members
49 of the committee and shall designate one such member as cochairperson;

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

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

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

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

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

64 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

79 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2025.