

House Resolution 659

By: Representatives Lumsden of the 12th and Burns of the 159th

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Study Committee on Insurance Market Reform; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the insurance market plays a crucial role in providing individuals and
3 businesses with financial protection against unforeseen risks and losses; and
- 4 WHEREAS, premiums across multiple lines of insurance have been steadily increasing,
5 placing an excessive and unsustainable burden on policyholders and businesses across this
6 state; and
- 7 WHEREAS, these increasing costs have resulted in financial hardship for consumers,
8 reducing access to essential coverage and undermining the affordability of necessary
9 protections; and
- 10 WHEREAS, insurance companies continue to report record profits, raising concerns about
11 the fairness and transparency of pricing models and the industry's accountability to
12 policyholders; and

13 WHEREAS, excessive premium increases coupled with reduced coverage options create a
14 destabilized market that disproportionately harms low-income and middle-income families,
15 small businesses, and seniors on fixed incomes; and

16 WHEREAS, the lack of competition in the insurance industry allows dominant providers to
17 impose unreasonable cost increases with little recourse for consumers, making regulatory
18 scrutiny a necessity; and

19 WHEREAS, it is imperative to conduct a thorough examination of the insurance industry's
20 rate-setting practices, profit margins, claims processing, and regulatory compliance to ensure
21 that consumers are not being subjected to unjustified rate hikes; and

22 WHEREAS, understanding the impact of national and state insurance regulations, as well as
23 examining successful models from other states, will enable the General Assembly to enact
24 meaningful reforms to protect consumers from predatory pricing and ensure that the
25 insurance market operates fairly and transparently.

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 Insurance Market Reform.

29 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members of the
30 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
31 Representatives. The Speaker shall also appoint four additional nonlegislative members
32 with expertise or qualifications as determined by the Speaker. The Speaker shall
33 designate two legislative members to serve as chairperson and vice chairperson of the
34 committee.

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

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

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

48 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

63 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2025.