

Senate Resolution 813

By: Senators Williams of the 25th, Summers of the 13th, Hatchett of the 50th, Albers of the 56th, Anderson of the 24th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Public Health to conduct a study on the relationship between
2 sudden unexpected deaths of infants and children, ages two and under, and the administration
3 of vaccinations; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the health and well-being of infants and children in Georgia is paramount to this
5 state and its residents; and

6 WHEREAS, the sudden unexpected death of an infant is a tragic event that can leave families
7 and communities with many unanswered questions; and

8 WHEREAS, the United States has the highest infant mortality rate amongst developed
9 nations, and research shows that Georgia has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the
10 nation; and

11 WHEREAS, a comprehensive understanding of the causes of unexpected infant deaths is
12 essential for developing effective strategies to prevent such tragedies; and

13 WHEREAS, while vaccinations have been integrated into medical practice in an effort to
14 prevent diseases, there is still a need to continuously monitor and study the potential impact
15 of such preventative treatment on the health of infants and children; and

16 WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United States Food and
17 Drug Administration are committed to ensuring that vaccinations provided to the public are
18 safe and effective; and

19 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of this state and its legislature to protect the health and
20 well-being of its youngest citizens and provide the necessary resources to address the issue
21 of sudden unexpected deaths of infants and children, ages two and under.

22 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
23 urge the Department of Public Health to conduct a study to examine the relationship between
24 unexpected deaths of infants and children, ages two and under, and the administration of
25 vaccinations.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the study shall include but not be limited to an analysis
27 of the state's immunization records in the context of sudden unexpected deaths of infants and
28 children, ages two and under, and be submitted in the form of a written report to the Senate
29 by February 1, 2027.

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the written report shall contain anonymous data
31 evaluating immunization records in the GRITS Immunization Information System of infants
32 and children, ages two and under, who died suddenly and without explanation.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the data shall include immunization records from the
34 2013 calendar year to present.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the written report shall include the infant or child's age
36 at the time of death, full immunization history, and the date of the infant or child's last
37 immunization and its proximity to the infant or child's time of death.

38 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Public Health shall collaborate with
39 relevant state and federal agencies and medical and public health experts to ensure that its
40 study is conducted with the highest level of scientific rigor and integrity.

41 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body recognizes the fiscal cost required to conduct
42 such a study as called for in this resolution, so the Department of Public Health may decline
43 to conduct such study unless the General Assembly appropriates moneys sufficient to cover
44 the cost of the study.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
46 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the secretary and
47 state health officer of the Department of Public Health.