

House Resolution 1579

By: Representatives Santos of the 117th, Lupton of the 83rd, McQueen of the 61st, and Au of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Hospital/Homebound (HHB) Services and
2 Medically Fragile Student Attendance; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, all students in this state are entitled to equitable and timely access to
4 instructional services that support academic progress, consistent attendance, and on-time
5 graduation; and

6 WHEREAS, students who qualify for hospital/homebound (HHB) services, including those
7 who are medically fragile or experiencing significant physical or mental health challenges,
8 often rely on such services as their primary means of accessing a public education during
9 periods of medical need; and

10 WHEREAS, delays in the initiation of HHB services and variations in service delivery across
11 local school systems may result in lost instructional time, reduced credit accrual, and
12 increased risk of chronic absenteeism; and

13 WHEREAS, chronic absenteeism is a key indicator of academic performance and graduation
14 outcomes and has been identified as a statewide priority for improvement; and

15 WHEREAS, local school systems currently utilize differing staffing models, funding
16 approaches, and instructional methods to provide HHB services, and a review of such
17 models, approaches, and methods may identify strategies to improve efficiency, access, and
18 student success; and

19 WHEREAS, students returning from HHB placement frequently require structured and
20 coordinated reintegration into the traditional school setting in order to maintain academic
21 progress and support their long-term well-being; and

22 WHEREAS, a comprehensive study of HHB services and medically fragile student
23 attendance will allow the House of Representatives to hear from educators, families, medical
24 providers, the Department of Education, and other stakeholders and to develop informed
25 recommendations for any needed legislative action; and

26 WHEREAS, improving student attendance and supporting medically fragile students align
27 with this state's commitment to educational opportunity and workforce readiness.

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

29 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
30 on Hospital/Homebound (HHB) Services and Medically Fragile Student Attendance.

31 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
32 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives
33 with one of such number designated as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

44 (B) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
45 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
46 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
47 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
48 employees.

49 (C) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
50 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
51 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
52 appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the reimbursement
53 of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and for the
54 reimbursement of expenses of state employees shall come from funds appropriated to
55 or otherwise available to their respective agencies.

56 (6) **Report.**

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

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

64 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
65 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.

66 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
67 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

71 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2026.