

Senate Resolution 925

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Orrock of the 36th, Jackson of the 41st, Anderson of the 43rd, Mangham of the 55th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on a Museum of African American History and
2 Culture of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia's African American heritage is a rich treasure that deserves to be
4 documented, preserved, cultivated, and promoted so that it may be discovered and explored
5 and serve as a point of cultural education on the significance of the African American
6 experience in this state; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia would benefit from the creation of a clearinghouse and authenticator
8 for information and insights about African Americans in Georgia and the nation through
9 collaboration with other public, educational, corporate, and Georgia based institutions on
10 strategies for promoting African American history and culture; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia would benefit from the discovery, identification, preservation,
12 collection, and cataloging of African American historical materials and artifacts and the
13 establishment and management of, and coordination with, museums and other appropriate
14 facilities for the promotion of African American history and culture to Georgians; and

15 WHEREAS, through the dissemination and integration of African American historical and
16 cultural materials into the mainstream of Georgia life and education, the State of Georgia
17 would have the opportunity to foster constructive social change through better racial
18 understanding.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

20 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
21 on a Museum of African American History and Culture of Georgia.

22 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
23 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate; such members shall include the
24 Senate Majority Leader and the chairperson of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus.
25 The President shall also appoint an additional two nonlegislative members of the
26 committee who shall be citizens who have experience supporting historically black
27 colleges and universities. The President shall designate a legislative member of the
28 committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

39 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
40 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the

41 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the
42 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they
43 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

44 (C) 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 (D) 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 Senate; except that funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of
53 state officials, other than legislative members, and for the reimbursement of the
54 expenses of state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise
55 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 Secretary of the Senate.

- 68 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
69 of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.
70 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2026.