

House Resolution 1947

By: Representatives Blackmon of the 146th, Erwin of the 32nd, Dubnik of the 29th, Jones of the 47th, Dawson of the 65th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Education Finance; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, state funding for the operation of Georgia's public schools is based on the
3 Quality Basic Education (QBE) formula, which was established in 1985 and calculates
4 funding to local units of administration, including local school systems, based generally on
5 full-time equivalent (FTE) student counts and types of programs; and

6 WHEREAS, the QBE formula, which requires local school systems to spend a calculated
7 amount of the local five-mill share of funds annually in order to participate in the QBE
8 program, is supplemented with state funding for equalization grants for local school systems
9 in order to help such systems initiate what they have been unable to accomplish with existing
10 revenue sources; and

11 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of equalization grants, local five-mill share, and all
12 other education financing sources and mechanisms, including programmatic funds, is needed
13 to determine whether the current education financing system continues to be an appropriate
14 and equitable method of calculating and distributing state education funds; and

15 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to consider overhauling the current education financing
16 structure, if necessary, including to identify ways to simplify the QBE funding formula and
17 to adequately assist districts within the state with high poverty levels.

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

19 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
20 on Education Finance.

21 (2) **Members and officers.**

22 (A) The committee shall be composed of five members of the House of
23 Representatives and shall include the chairperson of the House Committee on
24 Appropriations, the chairperson of the House Committee on Education, the chairperson
25 of the House Appropriations Subcommittee for Education, and two members of the
26 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
27 Representatives.

28 (B) The Speaker shall designate one of his appointees as chairperson.

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 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) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
40 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds

41 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
42 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

43 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

58 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2026.