

House Resolution 1949

By: Representative Gullett of the 19<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Gamecock Fighting in Georgia; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, a gamecock is a domesticated fowl bred, reared, or trained for the purposes of  
4 fighting with other fowl; and

5 WHEREAS, gamecock fighting is a blood sport that often involves the use of metal blades  
6 attached to the gamecocks' legs and frequently results in the death of one or more fowl; and

7 WHEREAS, gamecock fight organizers have been known to receive more than \$100,000.00  
8 from gamecock fighting derbies, and such derbies are frequently associated with gambling,  
9 drugs, violence, and criminal gang activity; and

10 WHEREAS, gamecock fighting is illegal under federal law, and Georgia is the only state in  
11 which gamecock fighting is not a felony offense under state law; and

12 WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the General Assembly to ensure that state and federal  
13 laws prohibiting cruelty to animals are enforced; and

14 WHEREAS, further examination of potential criminal penalties and avenues for deterrence  
15 related to gamecock fighting would assist the General Assembly in developing sound policy  
16 recommendations.

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

18 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
19 on Gamecock Fighting in Georgia.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the  
21 House of Representatives. Three of such members shall be appointed by the Speaker of  
22 the House of Representatives. Two of such members shall be appointed by the House  
23 Minority Leader. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
24 of the committee.

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

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

32 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

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

35 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
36 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
37 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
38 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

39 (6) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2026.