

## House Resolution 1035

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 138<sup>th</sup>, Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, Meadows of the 5<sup>th</sup>, Rogers of the 29<sup>th</sup>, England of the 116<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Student Protection and the Prevention of Assaults  
2 on Public Schools; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia's children are this state's most valuable and treasured resource; and

4 WHEREAS, horrifying recent events have established a pattern of attacks on the innocent  
5 and unprotected children and young adults attending places of public education, including  
6 elementary schools, high schools, and universities; and

7 WHEREAS, the tragedies, like those that have occurred in the last 15 years at Chardon High  
8 School, Worthing High School, Millard South High School, Ohio State University,  
9 Albertville Technical High School, Vocational College of Kauhajok, Northern Illinois  
10 University, Rio de Janeiro Elementary, Virginia Tech, Oikos University, Dunblane Primary  
11 School, Columbine High School, and, most recently and perhaps most horrific, Sandy Hook  
12 Elementary School, have instilled in each of us tremendous emotional energy fueled by  
13 feelings of sadness, fear, and even anger; and

14 WHEREAS, these strong emotions and the need to prevent further tragedies from happening  
15 have polarized views about what to do to best combat this very real threat to our children;  
16 all want to stop this nightmare from occurring, while few agree as to the best method of  
17 prevention; and

18 WHEREAS, enacting additional antigun laws or increasing restrictions on lawful gun  
19 ownership, while creating an illusion of safety for some, has proven to be ineffective in  
20 saving lives or preventing such terrible massacrers; and

21 WHEREAS, the most effective solution to this serious public safety threat will be a solution  
22 based on real facts, meaningful statistics, and logical evidence rather than emotions, fear, and  
23 prejudice; time to reflect and analyze is needed to understand the many options, to educate

24 ourselves on the methods tried by other states and other countries, to listen to the  
25 recommendations of public safety experts, and to weigh the facts and conclusions gathered  
26 by those who have examined such tragedies objectively; and

27 WHEREAS, we must come together in this time of sorrow to establish meaningful legislation  
28 that will truly prevent or lessen the impact of attempted massacres of our precious children.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 there is created the House Study Committee on Student Protection and the Prevention of  
31 Assaults on Public Schools to be composed of five members of the House of Representatives  
32 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of the House  
33 of Representatives shall designate the chairperson from among the House appointees. The  
34 committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the House Study Committee on Student Protection and  
36 the Prevention of Assaults on Public Schools shall investigate all evidence and issues  
37 surrounding the prevention of assaults on Georgia's schoolchildren. Specifically, the  
38 committee shall consider the need for greater security, including armed personnel on school  
39 grounds, and shall make recommendations as to possible policies, training requirements, and  
40 security procedures for allowing school staff and teachers to carry concealed weapons on  
41 school property. The committee shall also evaluate the cost associated with each possible  
42 security option.

43 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
44 needs, issues, and problems described in this resolution and issues related thereto. The  
45 committee shall make a recommendation on any actions or legislation which it deems  
46 necessary or appropriate to the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The committee  
47 may conduct such meetings at such times and places as it may deem necessary or convenient  
48 to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish  
49 the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive  
50 the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall  
51 receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The  
52 funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
53 appropriated to the House of Representatives. The reports of findings and recommendations  
54 required by this resolution, with suggestions for proposed legislation, shall be made on or  
55 before January 10, 2014. The committee shall stand abolished on January 10, 2014.