

House Resolution 1327

By: Representatives Setzler of the 35th, Hugley of the 136th, Efstoration of the 104th, and Reeves of the 34th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Claims of Wrongfully Convicted Persons; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that, due to advancements in science and
4 technology, wrongfully convicted persons are being discovered with a higher frequency than
5 in the past; and

6 WHEREAS, the General Assembly is sympathetic to the tremendous burden a wrongfully
7 convicted person faces; and

8 WHEREAS, there is not presently an adequate, uniform, and readily usable mechanism to
9 deal with such claims; and

10 WHEREAS, there is a need to create a uniform method for fairly and reasonably
11 compensating wrongfully convicted persons; and

12 WHEREAS, there is a need to study this matter to determine the best practices and methods
13 to achieve this end.

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

15 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
16 on Claims of Wrongfully Convicted Persons.

17 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
18 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
19 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
20 of the committee.

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

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

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

29 The legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in
30 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated. The allowances
31 authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member of the committee for
32 more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds necessary to carry out
33 the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated to the House of
34 Representatives.

35 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

50 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2020.