

House Resolution 1473

By: Representatives McCall of the 33rd, Pruett of the 149th, Watson of the 172nd, Corbett of the 174th, Meadows of the 5th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the House Study Committee on Industrial Hemp Production; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, Congress enacted the Agricultural Act of 2014, known as the 2014 Farm Bill,
3 to allow universities and state departments of agriculture to begin cultivating industrial hemp
4 for limited purposes; and
- 5 WHEREAS, industrial hemp is an agricultural commodity that is utilized in more than
6 25,000 products spanning nine markets, including agriculture, textiles, recycling, automotive,
7 furniture, food/nutrition/beverage, paper, construction materials, and personal care; and
- 8 WHEREAS, 27 states have enacted legislation providing for the cultivation of industrial
9 hemp under certain circumstances; and
- 10 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia would benefit from research of industrial hemp and hemp
11 products by partnering with the Cooperative Extension Service of the University System of
12 Georgia, the Georgia Institute of Technology's Strategic Energy Institute, and selected
13 Georgia colleges and universities; and
- 14 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia should consider the economic feasibility of developing
15 industrial hemp and the potential economic benefit to rural parts of Georgia by undertaking
16 industrial hemp production in this state.
- 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 Industrial Hemp Production.
- 20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
21 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
22 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
23 of the committee.

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

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

31 (5) **Allowances.** Members of the committee who are members of the General Assembly
32 shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of
33 Georgia Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received
34 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
35 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
36 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives.

37 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

52 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2018.