

House Resolution 279

By: Representatives Glaize of the 67th, Barnes of the 86th, Olaleye of the 59th, Clark of the 108th, Douglas of the 78th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Joint Head and Heart Student Health Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, numerous middle and high school students in Georgia public schools
3 unnecessarily suffer or die each year from mental health issues or heart related medical
4 conditions; and
- 5 WHEREAS, heart related medical conditions may result from students being exposed to
6 excessive heat or exercise; and
- 7 WHEREAS, such schools may not have sufficient personnel to identify students at risk of
8 mental health issues or such heart related medical conditions; and
- 9 WHEREAS, the hiring of additional appropriate personnel in such schools may alleviate the
10 risks of students suffering from or death during an episode of mental health issues or
11 exposure to excessive heat or exercise; and
- 12 WHEREAS, an annual survey of these issues to be completed by such schools would be
13 helpful in determining the extent of these issues in such schools; and

14 WHEREAS, a study committee is needed to examine the extent of these issues and determine
15 whether annual surveys of such schools should be conducted.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
17 GEORGIA:

18 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Head and Heart
19 Student Health Study Committee.

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

21 (A) The committee shall be composed of six members.

22 (B) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint two members of the
23 House of Representatives as members of the committee and shall designate one of such
24 members as cochairperson. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall also
25 appoint an additional member of the committee. Such member shall be a nurse or other
26 medical professional.

27 (C) The President of the Senate shall appoint two members of the Senate as members
28 of the committee and shall designate one of such members as cochairperson. The
29 President of the Senate shall also appoint an additional member of the committee. Such
30 member shall have a professional background in child psychology.

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

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

38 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

41 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,
42 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the
43 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the
44 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they
45 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

46 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state
47 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
48 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
49 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
50 employees.

51 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
52 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
53 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
54 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives and Senate; except that funds
55 for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members,
56 and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to
57 their respective agencies.

58 (6) **Report.**

59 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
60 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the
61 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
62 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

63 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
64 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph
65 (C) of this paragraph.

66 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
67 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
68 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed
69 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.

70 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
71 of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate copies of the minutes
72 of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

73 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2023.