

House Resolution 280

By: Representatives Dukes of the 154th, Stephens of the 164th, Greene of the 151st, Beverly of the 143rd, Martin of the 49th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on HOPE for the Future; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the HOPE Scholarship program was enacted under legislation scripted in 1992
3 under the supervision of Governor Zell Miller and launched a year later to provide assistance
4 toward the cost of tuition at eligible Georgia postsecondary institutions to incentivize and
5 reward Georgia's high achieving students; and

6 WHEREAS, funded by the "Georgia Lottery for Education Act," this unique initiative has
7 helped more than 1.8 million students at eligible state public and private universities and
8 public technical schools to create the "better-educated work force...and invest in (Georgia's)
9 economic future" as Governor Miller envisioned in his 1992 State of the State Address; and

10 WHEREAS, HOPE consists of six different aid programs: the HOPE Scholarship, the HOPE
11 Grant, the Zell Miller Scholarship, the Zell Miller Grant, the HOPE GED Grant, and the
12 HOPE Career Grant; and

13 WHEREAS, over the years, there have been various bills introduced to change HOPE
14 eligibility and expand its sources of funding; and

15 WHEREAS, it is prudent to periodically review state programs, including the HOPE
16 Scholarship Program, to identify the areas that are successful and any areas which may need
17 to be improved; and

18 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the General Assembly to study these proposed
19 eligibility and expansion options for HOPE; and

20 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives believes that it is in the best interests of HOPE
21 and the students in Georgia to review the program and its impact on students in varying
22 situations.

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

24 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
25 on HOPE for the Future.

26 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of nine members of the
27 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
28 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate two members of the committee as
29 cochairpersons of the committee.

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

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

37 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive
38 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia

39 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
40 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
41 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
42 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

43 **(6) Report.**

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

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

51 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
52 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
53 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed
54 with the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

55 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Clerk
56 of the House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee
57 in lieu thereof.

58 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2021.