

## House Resolution 281

By: Representatives Olaleye of the 59<sup>th</sup>, Evans of the 57<sup>th</sup>, Glaize of the 67<sup>th</sup>, Greene of the 154<sup>th</sup>, Erwin of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Lottery Revenues, Reserves, and Educational  
2 Programs; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Georgia Lottery was created in November, 1992, by the people of Georgia  
4 to enhance education funding; and

5 WHEREAS, since the inception of the Georgia Lottery Corporation, more than \$8.55 billion  
6 has been appropriated to send more than 1.7 million four-year-olds to pre-kindergarten  
7 programs throughout the state; and

8 WHEREAS, since the inception of the Georgia Lottery Corporation, more than \$13 billion  
9 in lottery proceeds has been appropriated and distributed to more than 2 million HOPE  
10 scholarship recipients; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia is required by law to have 50 percent of the prior year's net lottery  
12 proceeds saved in case of a shortfall; and

13 WHEREAS, the state treasury has amassed lottery reserves built up from unspent surplus  
14 funds that far exceed the mandated benchmark; and

15 WHEREAS, opportunities exist to further the educational needs of Georgia's  
16 pre-kindergarten students by reducing class size, increasing teacher pay, providing capital  
17 funds needed to expand access to pre-kindergarten classrooms, and serving more children  
18 in targeted jurisdictions of this state; and

19 WHEREAS, college costs have risen, making college inaccessible to low-income students  
20 in Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the prospect of utilizing surplus lottery funds for the purposes described above  
22 deserves thorough and serious consideration.

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 Lottery Revenues, Reserves, and Educational Programs.

26 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the  
27 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
28 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
29 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 chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
34 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
35 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
36 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 chairperson 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 chairperson shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)  
50 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 chairperson and filed with the Clerk of the  
54 House of Representatives.

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

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