

House Resolution 474 (AM)

By: Representatives Abrams of the 89th, Ramsey of the 72nd, Jones of the 47th, Hugley of the 136th, and Smyre of the 135th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Kinship
2 Care; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly finds that there is a need to study the issues facing
4 grandparents and other family members as primary caregivers and guardians, including, but
5 not limited to, access to services, financial support, and making medical and academic
6 decisions for children in their care; and

7 WHEREAS, the General Assembly further finds that there is a need to examine the
8 administration and effectiveness of state funded programs designed to assist those providing
9 kinship care; and

10 WHEREAS, a comprehensive review of government policies and services, proposals from
11 relevant interest groups and advocacy organizations in this state, and best practices from
12 other states is critical to ensure that issues facing grandparents and other family members are
13 considered and addressed.

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 Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and Kinship Care.

17 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members of the
18 House of Representatives, including the Minority Leader, and the remaining six members
19 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. At least three of the
20 members shall be from the minority party including the Minority Leader. The Speaker
21 shall designate one of the members as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

36 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

51 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2015.