

The House Committee on Judiciary offers the following substitute to HR 707:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Homicide Cold Case Resources; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in 2020, the Georgia Bureau of Investigation formed a cold case unit made up
4 of six persons retired with investigative backgrounds to investigate missing and homicide
5 victims; and

6 WHEREAS, there are cases in every area of the State of Georgia, and each family and
7 community need to see persistent and efficient attention given to their cases; and

8 WHEREAS, a study should be undertaken to determine what actions could be taken to
9 augment and possibly scale the efforts of the Georgia Bureau of Investigation regarding
10 homicide cold cases.

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

12 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
13 on Homicide Cold Case Resources.

14 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of eight members
15 appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
37 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
38 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
39 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the
40 reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and
41 state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to their
42 respective agencies.

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 of the committee and filed with
54 the Clerk of the House of Representatives. Any member of the committee may file a
55 minority report that shall accompany the majority report.

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

59 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2022.