

The House Committee on Health and Human Services offers the following substitute to HR 767:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Provision of Community Based Intellectual and
2 Developmental Disability (IDD) services, including the NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver
3 Services; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, Georgia's citizens with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) are
5 some of the most vulnerable of its population and these citizens need access to services,
6 therefore requiring a seamless community based services system to address individuals'
7 varied and often complex needs; and

8 WHEREAS, community based state funded and NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver Services
9 provide a coordinated program of professional services for individuals with IDD in
10 community based settings; and

11 WHEREAS, these services are designed to provide for specific medical necessities in a safe,
12 habitable setting; and

13 WHEREAS, community IDD services are regulated with multiple layers of costly
14 administrative audits, compliance reviews, service monitoring, quality assessments, and
15 other duplicative certifications; and

16 WHEREAS, those with IDD may have increasingly complex medical and significant chronic
17 care needs with multiple physical disabilities, mental health issues, and a need for effective
18 medication management support as well as behavioral support needs; and

19 WHEREAS, there is a shortage of licensed health care professionals (LPNs or RNs) to meet
20 the needs of this population for medication administration, thereby attributing to burdensome
21 and excessive cost incurred by providers to comply with the current proxy health caregiver
22 policies; and

23 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Community Health is responsible for oversight of
24 these services and the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental
25 Disabilities is responsible for administration of these services; and

26 WHEREAS, the home and community based services programs in Georgia have a waiting
27 list of over 7,000 citizens; and

28 WHEREAS, the home and community based services programs in Georgia have struggled
29 to meet the needs of individuals with IDD and their families and respond to crisis; and

30 WHEREAS, the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services has recently issued
31 additional rules further defining home and community based services.

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

33 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
34 on Provision of Community Based Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD)
35 services, including the NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver Services.

36 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of three members of the
37 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
38 Representatives. The Speaker shall also appoint an additional two nonlegislative
39 members of the committee as follows: a consumer or family member of NOW/COMP
40 Medicaid Waiver Services and a provider of NOW/COMP Medicaid Waiver Services
41 through the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. The
42 Speaker shall designate one of the legislative appointees as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

53 (B) Nonlegislative members of the committee shall receive a daily expense allowance
54 in an amount the same as that specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of

55 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation
56 allowance authorized for state employees.

57 (C) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
58 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
59 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
60 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

61 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

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