

House Resolution 875

By: Representatives Kendrick of the 93rd, Bennett of the 94th, Mitchell of the 88th, Beverly of the 143rd, Marin of the 96th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Financing Options for Cannabis-based Businesses;
2 and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the cannabis industry could be beneficial to the economy of the State of Georgia
4 and the general welfare of its residents; and

5 WHEREAS, the growth and success of the cannabis industry are dependent upon public
6 confidence and trust that: (a) residents who suffer from chronic or debilitating medical
7 conditions will be able to obtain medical cannabis safely and conveniently; (b) residents who
8 choose to engage in the adult use of cannabis may obtain such cannabis in a safe and efficient
9 manner; (c) cannabis establishments do not unduly impact the quality of life enjoyed by
10 residents of the surrounding neighborhoods; and (d) the cannabis industry is free from
11 criminal and corruptive elements; and

12 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial, therefore, to study the feasibility of the use of emerging
13 technologies, including, without limitation, blockchain and systems that use a single source
14 of truth, as a means of collecting data and efficiently and effectively utilizing electronic
15 transactions involving cannabis in order to reduce or eliminate the handling of cash; and

16 WHEREAS, providing funding options, including, but not limited to, low-interest loans to
17 cannabis based businesses owned by minorities, women, and veterans should also be studied
18 and considered.

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

20 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
21 on Financing Options for Cannabis-based Businesses.

22 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
23 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of

24 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson
25 of the committee.

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

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

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

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

36 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
37 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
38 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
39 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

40 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

55 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2020.