

Senate Resolution 1025

By: Senators Ginn of the 47th, Beach of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd, Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd and Dolezal of the 27th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Georgia Entrepreneur Empowerment; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, as consumers' internet use has shifted from desktop computers to mobile
4 devices, the mobile application ecosystem has become a critical part of the national economy
5 and Georgia's economy; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia's consumers now use mobile applications to read the news, shop,
7 communicate, order food, consume media, call for transportation, obtain medical care, form
8 relationships, and more; and

9 WHEREAS, it is in the public policy interests of Georgia's citizens to ensure that the mobile
10 application ecosystem remains vibrant, dynamic, independent, and positioned for growth;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia is a "hot spot" for diverse entrepreneurs who have created thousands
13 of new jobs to build scalable tech startups serving diverse consumers' needs, with innovative
14 education incubators at the University of Georgia, the Georgia Institute of Technology,
15 Morehouse University, and Spelman College; and

16 WHEREAS, there are increasingly important questions about the health of the mobile
17 application industry.

18 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

19 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
20 on Georgia Entrepreneur Empowerment.

21 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
22 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
23 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

32 (A) How international and national regulators, legislators, and attorneys general are
33 reviewing the ability of smaller developers to serve their customers directly,
34 independently of "gatekeepers";

35 (B) The ability of smaller entrepreneurs to directly contract with, and serve, their
36 customers; and

37 (C) The ability of smaller entrepreneurs to avoid the capturing of a disproportionate
38 share of mobile application revenue that could be reinvested in Georgia's economy.

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

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

42 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
43 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
44 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
45 appropriated to the Senate.

46 (6) **Report.**

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

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

54 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
55 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
56 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
57 the Secretary of the Senate.

58 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
59 of the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

60 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2020.