

Senate Resolution 354

By: Senators Robertson of the 29th, Cowser of the 46th, Beach of the 21st, Kennedy of the 18th, Watson of the 1st and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on the Effects of Cannabis Use; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, cannabis use is increasingly accepted among both youthful and adult
4 populations; and

5 WHEREAS, cannabis products are continuing to increase in potency to as much as 99
6 percent THC; and

7 WHEREAS, certain ingredients of cannabis, known as cannabinoids, are known to have
8 medicinal properties; and

9 WHEREAS, legislation such as the bipartisan, federal Medical Marijuana and Cannabidiol
10 Research Expansion Act (H.R. 8454) eases barriers to medical research while ensuring that
11 new medicines must be proven safe and effective; and

12 WHEREAS, cannabis is frequently presented by the media as a safe, fun drug without
13 unintended side effects; and

14 WHEREAS, cannabis use may have unintended side effects on driving, on the incidence and
15 prevalence of cannabis use disorder (dependence), on unborn children, on suicidal ideation,
16 on youthful brain development, and on workplace productivity; and

17 WHEREAS, an increasing number of states have passed recreational marijuana legislation;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, study is needed to understand and address the effects of cannabis use in this
20 state.

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

22 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
23 on the Effects of Cannabis Use.

24 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the
25 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate one
26 of such six members as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

34 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive
35 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
36 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
37 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.

38 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
39 appropriated to the Senate.

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 Secretary of the Senate. Any member of the committee may file a minority report
52 that shall accompany the majority report.

53 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
54 of the Senate copies of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

55 **(7) Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2023.