

## Senate Resolution 392

By: Senators Lucas of the 26th, Shafer of the 48th, Sims of the 12th, Burke of the 11th, Mullis of the 53rd and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Rural Georgia Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia's rural areas are faced with challenges distinct from other areas of this  
3 state, which can include deficiency in access to health care, poor infrastructure, limited  
4 transit options, diminished quality of educational opportunities, scarcity of employment  
5 possibilities, lack of broadband and other technological advances, and overall lack of  
6 economic growth; and

7 WHEREAS, a thorough, intensive, and systematic study of the existing issues in Georgia's  
8 rural areas is necessary and appropriate; and

9 WHEREAS, it is important that there be an examination and identification of policies and  
10 ideas to enhance the delivery of services to individuals and businesses in rural areas so that  
11 they are provided with similar health, social, and economic opportunities as are individuals  
12 and businesses in other areas across this state.

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

14 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Rural Georgia  
15 Study Committee.

16 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members of the  
17 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a  
18 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

33 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

47 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2017.