

Senate Resolution 4

By: Senators Shafer of the 48th, Cowser of the 46th, Gooch of the 51st, Kennedy of the 18th and Wilkinson of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Relative to officials, employees, and committees in the Senate; and for other purposes.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the following provisions shall be in effect during
3 the 2017-2018 biennium of the General Assembly unless and until otherwise provided for
4 by resolution of the Senate:

5 **PART 1**

6 **SECTION 1-1.**

7 (a) Subject to the availability of funds appropriated or otherwise available for the Senate, the
8 Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs, pursuant to Senate rules, is authorized to
9 employ on behalf of the Senate a postmaster or postmistress, assistant doorkeepers, a director
10 of pages, pages, aides, administrative assistants, court reporters, consultants, and other
11 necessary personnel; and the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs is authorized to
12 provide for a Senate Research Office, a Senate Budget and Evaluation Office, and a Senate
13 Press Office, including a Senate Photographer, and to employ personnel for said offices. The
14 numbers and compensation of personnel so employed pursuant to this section shall be fixed
15 by the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs within the limitations of funds
16 appropriated or otherwise available for the operation of the Senate. Personnel employed
17 pursuant to this section may be employed on a permanent or temporary basis and on a
18 part-time or full-time basis, as may be determined by the Senate Committee on
19 Administrative Affairs. The assignment and duties of personnel employed pursuant to this
20 section shall be as determined by the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs; and any
21 such personnel may be assigned to Senate officers, committees, and committee officers as
22 deemed appropriate by the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs. The Senate
23 Committee on Administrative Affairs is authorized to purchase stationery and postage for use
24 by Senators in the conduct of Senate business.

25 (b) By agreement with the appropriate officer or officers of the House of Representatives,
26 the President of the Senate may authorize the establishment and employment of staff for
27 newly created joint offices of the General Assembly.

28 **SECTION 1-2.**

29 The Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs is also authorized to secure the services of
30 chaplains and interns and provide expense reimbursement allowances for them within the
31 limitations of funds appropriated or otherwise available.

32 **SECTION 1-3.**

33 The Sergeant-at-Arms of the Senate, who is elected by the Senate, shall be compensated in
34 an amount to be fixed by the Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs.

35 **PART 2**

36 **SECTION 2-1.**

37 Subject to the availability of funds appropriated or otherwise available for the Secretary of
38 the Senate's Office, the Secretary of the Senate is authorized to employ necessary personnel
39 for the Secretary's office. The numbers and compensation of personnel employed pursuant
40 to this section shall be fixed by the Secretary within the limitations of funds appropriated or
41 otherwise available for the operation of the Secretary of the Senate's Office. Personnel
42 employed pursuant to this section may be employed on a permanent or temporary basis and
43 on a part-time or full-time basis, as may be determined by the Secretary. The assignment and
44 duties of personnel employed pursuant to this section shall be as determined by the Secretary.

45 **SECTION 2-2.**

46 Pursuant to the provisions of Code Section 28-3-23 of the Official Code of Georgia
47 Annotated, the annual salary of the Secretary of the Senate shall be in the same amount as
48 in effect immediately prior to the adoption of this resolution plus 4 percent.

49 **PART 3**

50 **SECTION 3-1.**

51 Subject to the availability of funds appropriated or otherwise available for the operation of
52 the President of the Senate's Office, the President of the Senate is authorized to employ in
53 the President of the Senate's Office interns, aides, administrative assistants, consultants, and
54 other necessary personnel. The numbers and compensation of personnel employed pursuant

55 to this section shall be fixed by the President of the Senate within the limitations of funds
56 appropriated or otherwise available for the operation of the President of the Senate's Office.
57 Personnel employed pursuant to this section may be employed on a permanent or temporary
58 basis and on a part-time or full-time basis. The duties of personnel employed pursuant to this
59 section shall be as determined by the President of the Senate.

60 **PART 4**

61 **SECTION 4-1.**

62 During any day or period of time during which the General Assembly is not in session,
63 including without limitation any day or period of adjournment during a regular or special
64 session, each of the following officers shall be a committee of one for each day spent on
65 official business: the President Pro Tempore, the Majority Leader, and the Minority Leader.
66 For each such day spent on official business each of such officers shall receive the expense,
67 mileage, and travel allowances authorized by law for members of interim legislative
68 committees. Each such officer shall provide with his or her claim for such allowances for
69 each such day a brief statement of the nature of the official business carried out on such day.
70 These officers shall not be subject to Section 5-3 of this resolution (limit on number of days).

71 **SECTION 4-2.**

72 (a) During any day or period of time during which the General Assembly is not in session,
73 including without limitation any day or period of adjournment during a regular or special
74 session, each other member of the Senate is designated as a committee of one for the purpose
75 of carrying out legislative duties only within the State of Georgia. Subject to any limits
76 established pursuant to Section 5-3 of this resolution, for each such day of service, each
77 member shall receive the expense, mileage, and travel allowances authorized by law for
78 legislative members of interim legislative committees. Each such member shall provide with
79 his or her claim for such allowances for each such day a brief statement of the nature of the
80 legislative duties carried out on such day.

81 (b) In addition to the days provided for in subsection (a) of this section and without counting
82 toward the limit specified in such subsection, each member of the Senate is designated as a
83 committee of one for the purpose of carrying out legislative duties on any weekday which:
84 (1) is a one-day recess or adjournment during a regular session; and (2) occurs after Monday
85 and prior to Friday. For each such day of service, each member shall receive the expense and
86 travel allowances (not including mileage which shall be covered by the weekly round trip)
87 for legislative members of interim legislative committees. Each such member shall provide

88 with his or her claim for such allowances for each such day a brief statement of the nature
89 of the legislative duties carried out on such day.

90 **SECTION 4-3.**

91 Pursuant to the provisions of law, in addition to any other compensation they receive as
92 members of the General Assembly, the Majority Leader and the Minority Leader each shall
93 receive an amount of \$2,400.00 per annum, as salary, to be paid in equal monthly or
94 semimonthly installments; and each Administration Floor Leader shall receive an amount of
95 \$1,200.00 per annum, as salary, to be paid in equal monthly or semimonthly installments.

96 **PART 5**

97 **SECTION 5-1.**

98 During any period or day of adjournment during a regular or special session, the Senate
99 Committee on Assignments is empowered to give authorization for standing committees of
100 the Senate to remain at the Capitol during any such period of time for the purpose of
101 considering and studying proposed legislation and other matters. Members of such
102 committees as shall be designated by the Senate Committee on Assignments to remain at the
103 Capitol shall receive the expense, mileage, and travel allowances authorized by law for
104 members of interim committees.

105 **SECTION 5-2.**

106 The President of the Senate is authorized to appoint committees from the members of the
107 Senate to serve as interim legislative study committees and for the purpose of performing
108 such duties as the committee shall deem necessary. Such committees are authorized to serve
109 during the interim and the members thereof shall receive the expense, mileage, and travel
110 allowances authorized by law for legislative members of interim legislative committees. The
111 President of the Senate shall designate the chairperson of any such committee and shall
112 prescribe the time for which any such committee is authorized to function. The President of
113 the Senate is authorized to extend the time allowed for any committee, whether the
114 committee is created by resolution or by the President of the Senate. The chairperson of any
115 standing committee is empowered to authorize his or her committee or any standing
116 subcommittee of his or her committee to function during the interim for the purpose of
117 performing such duties as the chairperson shall deem necessary. The members shall receive
118 the expense, mileage, and travel allowances authorized by law for legislative members of
119 interim legislative committees.

120 **SECTION 5-3.**

121 The Senate Committee on Administrative Affairs shall be authorized to set limits on the
122 number of days per year that a member shall receive the allowances authorized in Sections
123 4-2 (committee of one) and 5-2 (committee meetings during interim) of this resolution. For
124 this purpose a year shall begin on the opening day of a regular session and end on the day
125 prior to the opening day of the next regular session.

126 **PART 6**

127 **SECTION 6-1.**

128 The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of Parts 1, 4, and 5 of this resolution shall
129 come from funds appropriated or otherwise available for the operation of the Senate except
130 that funds for any joint staff or joint offices under subsection (b) of Section 1-1 of this
131 resolution shall come from ancillary funds of the General Assembly. The funds necessary
132 to carry out the provisions of Part 2 of this resolution shall come from funds appropriated or
133 otherwise available for the operation of the Secretary of the Senate's Office. The funds
134 necessary to carry out the provisions of Part 3 of this resolution shall come from funds
135 appropriated or otherwise available for the operation of the President of the Senate's Office.

136 **SECTION 6-2.**

137 Any personnel employed pursuant to this resolution shall serve at the pleasure of the
138 appointing authority; and any such personnel may be discharged by the appointing authority
139 with or without cause.

140 **SECTION 6-3.**

141 This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by the Senate.