

Senate Resolution 619

By: Senator Harbison of the 15th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Public Utility Once Source Billing of Local Governments Study
2 Committee; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, each facility operated by a local school district and each building owned by a
4 local government is presently billed separately for utilities; and

5 WHEREAS, if the rate charged by regulated public utilities were to be based on the total
6 usage of all facilities and buildings of a local school district and local government, such
7 aggregation of total usage would result in a lower rate per gallon of water or per kilowatt
8 hour of electricity; and

9 WHEREAS, a local school district and local government could still use separate meters to
10 track usage in each facility or building for efficiency, but the local school district or local
11 government should be given credit for total usage to get a lower rate that would benefit all
12 taxpayers; and

13 WHEREAS, study is needed to thoroughly review current practices, develop potential
14 legislation, and determine other actions that would maximize the benefits of one user billing
15 for local school districts, local governments, and Georgia taxpayers.

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

17 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Public Utility
18 Once Source Billing of Local Governments Study Committee.

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

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

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

29 (5) **Allowances and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive
30 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
31 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any
32 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
33 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
34 appropriated to the Senate.

35 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

49 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2024.