

Senate Resolution 709

By: Senators James of the 35th and Rhett of the 33rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Rental Housing Affordability Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly has recognized in Code Section 36-82-181 that
3 "the availability of safe, sanitary, and affordable housing in the State of Georgia [is] of vital
4 importance to the state and its citizens."; and

5 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly has declared in Code Section 8-3-170 that
6 "housing is an issue of paramount concern to this state which affects the health, welfare, and
7 safety of the citizens of this state and the economic viability and planned growth of its
8 communities."; and

9 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly has further declared in Code Section 8-3-171
10 that it is "the state's policy to provide decent, safe, and affordable housing to all segments of
11 the population of this state."; and

12 WHEREAS, despite these recognitions by the General Assembly, Georgians continue to
13 struggle with a lack of affordable rental housing on a massive scale; and

14 WHEREAS, current economic trends have led to dramatic increases in rent and have
15 exacerbated the affordable rental housing crisis; and

16 WHEREAS, study is needed to examine the lack of affordable rental housing in this state,
17 the causes, and possible improvements or solutions.

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

19 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Rental Housing
20 Affordability Study Committee.

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.

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

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

37 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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