

Senate Resolution 751

By: Senators Watson of the 11th, Albers of the 56th, Goodman of the 8th, Anderson of the 24th and Bearden of the 30th

**ADOPTED SENATE**

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Disaster Mitigation and Resilience Study Committee; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the protection of human life and property is a fundamental responsibility of the  
4 state government; and

5 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is susceptible to various natural and manmade disaster  
6 events that pose threats to the well-being of its citizens, integrity of its infrastructure,  
7 prospects for its economic growth, and maintenance and protection of its unique lands and  
8 water areas and applicable natural resources. These threats additionally pose significant  
9 fiscal and operational risks to functions of the state government; and

10 WHEREAS, this state has experienced numerous episodes of flooding along the coast, rivers,  
11 and low-lying interior areas as a result of rains, storms, hurricanes, and tides that highlight  
12 the need for a state-wide plan to accommodate and mitigate flooding impacts in this state;  
13 and

14 WHEREAS, states across the Southeast are responding to more frequent and extreme  
15 wildfire and drought, and Georgia has experienced several devastating tornadoes; and

16 WHEREAS, this state will benefit from a coordinated and collaborative effort to develop  
17 comprehensive responses and solutions to protect this state and its citizens, businesses, and  
18 natural resources by accounting for current risks as well as projected future conditions; and

19 WHEREAS, in these endeavors it is vital that this state develop a comprehensive resilience  
20 plan to accommodate and mitigate current and future disaster events so as to reduce the  
21 negative impacts to our economy and to facilitate economic development, promote tourism,  
22 and assist communities and businesses struggling with repeated disaster impacts; and

23 WHEREAS, a coordinated state, local, and community effort is necessary and appropriate  
24 to facilitate the interaction and effective collaboration between various government entities  
25 and the private and academic sectors to address these issues.

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

27 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Disaster  
28 Mitigation and Resilience Study Committee.

29 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of four members of the  
30 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate, who shall designate one such  
31 member as chairperson, as follows:

32 (A) The chairperson of the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and the  
33 Environment;

34 (B) The chairperson of the Senate Committee on Public Safety;

35 (C) A senator representing a coastal district; and

36 (D) A senator representing a rural district.

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

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

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

50 (6) **Report.**

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

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

58 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
59 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.

60 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with  
61 the Secretary of the Senate.

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

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