

Senate Resolution 836

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Dugan of the 30th, Jackson of the 2nd  
and Anavitarte of the 31st

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on a Museum of African American History and  
2 Culture of Georgia; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia's African American heritage is a rich treasure that deserves to be  
4 documented, preserved, cultivated, and promoted so that it may be discovered and explored  
5 and serve as a point of cultural education on the significance of the African American  
6 experience in this state; and

7 WHEREAS, Georgia would benefit from the creation of a clearinghouse and authenticator  
8 for information and insights about African Americans in Georgia and the nation through  
9 collaboration with other public, educational, corporate, and Georgia based institutions on  
10 strategies for promoting African American history and culture; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia would benefit from the discovery, identification, preservation,  
12 collection, and cataloging of African American historical materials and artifacts and the  
13 establishment and management of, and coordination with, museums and other appropriate  
14 facilities for the promotion of African American history and culture to Georgians; and

15 WHEREAS, through the dissemination and integration of African American historical and  
16 cultural materials into the mainstream of Georgia life and education, the State of Georgia  
17 would have the opportunity to foster constructive social change through better racial  
18 understanding.

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

20 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee  
21 on a Museum of African American History and Culture of Georgia.

22 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members, three  
23 of whom shall be members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate  
24 and the President of the Senate shall designate one of such number as chairperson of the  
25 committee; one member shall be the majority leader; one member shall be the  
26 chairperson of the Georgia Legislative Black Caucus; and two members shall be citizens  
27 who have experience supporting historically black colleges and universities.

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

31 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee  
32 shall meet at different locations within the state, particularly in rural areas of this state,  
33 interacting with local government officials, educational leaders, health care providers,  
34 business leaders, civic groups, and all other citizens who desire to offer input, so as to  
35 enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish  
36 the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

37 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

40 (B) Members of the committee who are state officials, other than legislative members,  
41 or who are state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the  
42 committee, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the  
43 performance of their duties as members of the committee in the same manner as they  
44 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

45 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state  
46 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that  
47 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia  
48 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state  
49 employees.

50 (D) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
51 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
52 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
53 appropriated to the Senate; except that funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of  
54 state officials, other than legislative members, and for the reimbursement of the  
55 expenses of state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise  
56 available to their respective agencies.

57 **(6) Report.**

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

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

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

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

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

71 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2022.