

Senate Resolution 899

By: Senators Ginn of the 47th, Mullis of the 53rd, Brass of the 28th, Lucas of the 26th, Cowsert of the 46th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Alcohol Franchise Law Study Committee; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Georgia presently has certain alcohol franchise laws in place governing the
3 relationships between manufacturers and wholesalers, which include exclusive sales
4 territories, governance of terminations, and other provisions; and

5 WHEREAS, proposals have been advanced from time to time that included a departure in
6 one way or another from the current alcohol franchise system; and

7 WHEREAS, the reasons and overlying concerns for implementing such alcohol franchise
8 protections in Georgia in the early 1980s may no longer exist in the industry today or may
9 be different given the innovations and improvements within the alcohol industry; and

10 WHEREAS, there is a need to review such franchise laws to determine whether any reform,
11 revision, or modernization of such laws is necessary and appropriate under current economic
12 and regulatory conditions so as to better fulfill the purposes of such laws.

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

14 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Alcohol Franchise
15 Law Study Committee.

16 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
17 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
18 legislative member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

22 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
23 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or

24 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
25 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

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

32 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

46 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2020.