

## House Resolution 1169

By: Representatives Hutchinson of the 106<sup>th</sup>, Beverly of the 143<sup>rd</sup>, Park of the 107<sup>th</sup>, Prince of the 132<sup>nd</sup>, Frye of the 122<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on the Economic Advantages of Marijuana  
2 Legalization; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, at least 23 states, two territories, and the District of Columbia have legalized  
4 small amounts of marijuana for adult recreational use, but Georgia is not one of them; and

5 WHEREAS, since its legalization eight years ago, Colorado marijuana sales have topped \$11  
6 billion, with nearly \$2.2 billion in 2020 alone; the Arizona Department of Revenue estimates  
7 nearly \$611 million in sales of both medical and recreational marijuana since its legalization;  
8 and, in Nevada, taxable sales reached roughly \$912 million in 2021; and

9 WHEREAS, marijuana tax revenues are significant, exceeding cigarette and alcohol tax  
10 collections in many states that have legalized marijuana; and

11 WHEREAS, on average, marijuana tax revenues have represented about 0.36 percent of state  
12 budgets in the seven states that had programs in place for the full year; and

13 WHEREAS, in Georgia, state agencies lack resources to effectively monitor illegal  
14 marijuana possession and sale; and

15 WHEREAS, it is worth considering whether funds from legalization and taxation of  
16 marijuana could be beneficial in contributing to its monitoring of proper use.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

18 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
19 on the Economic Advantages of Marijuana Legalization.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the  
21 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
22 Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson  
23 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.** The legislative members of the committee shall receive  
32 the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia  
33 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any  
34 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.  
35 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
36 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

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 Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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