

House Resolution 1384

By: Representatives Blackmon of the 146th, Evans of the 57th, Martin of the 49th, Knight of the 134th, Stinson of the 150th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Assessing the Semester and Quarter Systems at
2 USG and TCSG Institutions; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, institutions of the University System of Georgia (USG) have operated on the
4 semester system rather than the quarter system since 1999; and

5 WHEREAS, institutions of the Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) have operated
6 on the semester system rather than the quarter system since 2011; and

7 WHEREAS, with the conversion from the quarter system to the semester system, certain
8 benefits were anticipated. Among these were alignment of curricula within and across
9 systems to facilitate transfer of courses, increased administrative efficiencies, and reduced
10 administrative costs; and

11 WHEREAS, because the conversion from the quarter system to the semester system has
12 resulted in longer terms with more classes and fewer graduation cycles, some question
13 whether semesters are the better option for students or for workforce development; and

14 WHEREAS, a study would be beneficial to examine respective advantages and
15 disadvantages of semesters and quarters for institutions of the University System of Georgia
16 and the Technical College System of Georgia and whether the anticipated benefits of
17 converting to the semester system have been realized.

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

19 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
20 on Assessing the Semester and Quarter Systems at USG and TCSG Institutions.

21 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven members as
22 follows:

23 (A) Five members of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of
24 the House of Representatives, at least one of whom shall be from the minority caucus;

25 (B) The chancellor of the University System of Georgia, or his designee; and

26 (C) The commissioner of the Technical College System of Georgia, or his designee.

27 The Speaker shall designate a legislative member of the committee as chairperson of the
28 committee.

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

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

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

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

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

44 (C) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
45 by any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are
46 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
47 from funds appropriated to the House of Representatives; except that funds for the
48 reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative members, and
49 state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise available to their
50 respective agencies.

51 **(6) Report.**

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

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

59 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
60 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
61 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
62 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

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