

House Resolution 1555

By: Representatives Beskin of the 54th, Bruce of the 61st, Wilkinson of the 52nd, and Metze of the 55th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Homestead Exemptions Impacting City of Atlanta
2 Residents; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, homesteaded residents of the City of Atlanta have many homestead exemptions
4 from ad valorem taxation for real property available between the taxing jurisdictions of
5 Fulton County, DeKalb County, the Atlanta Independent School District, and the City of
6 Atlanta; and

7 WHEREAS, the homestead exemptions currently provided are difficult to understand and
8 often create confusion for taxpayers; and

9 WHEREAS, homesteaded property owners in the City of Atlanta should be afforded clarity
10 in the various homestead exemptions available and should have a more equitable schedule
11 of exemptions; and

12 WHEREAS, Georgia law does not currently provide clarity on the various homestead
13 exemptions; and

14 WHEREAS, thoughtful consideration should be given to the role that Fulton County, DeKalb
15 County, the Atlanta Independent School District, and the City of Atlanta should play in
16 informing Atlanta's residents of homestead exemptions; and

17 WHEREAS, creating a simpler, more understandable method of determining the various
18 homestead exemptions and a more equitable method of gaining exemptions should be
19 studied.

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

21 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
22 on Homestead Exemptions Impacting City of Atlanta Residents.

23 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
24 City of Atlanta delegation of the House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker
25 of the House of Representatives. The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee
26 as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

35 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

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

38 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
39 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
40 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
41 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

42 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

57 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2016.