

House Resolution 278

By: Representative Parsons of the 44th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Civics Education in Georgia; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, civics education remains the essential building block of a well-functioning
4 democracy; and

5 WHEREAS, Georgia law currently permits but does not require all students, as a condition
6 of high school graduation, to complete and pass a separate semester course covering the
7 founding philosophy and principles of the United States of America; and

8 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to:

- 9 (1) Review the current status of civics education in the State of Georgia;
- 10 (2) Review other states' methods for delivering civics education and high school
11 graduation requirements in their respective states; and
- 12 (3) Make recommendations to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the State
13 Board of Education, the State School Superintendent, the Governor, and local boards of
14 education based on such review regarding whether certain civics education should be
15 included in the high school graduation requirements for students in this state.

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

17 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee
18 on Civics Education in Georgia.

19 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of three members of the
20 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
21 The Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

35 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

45 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
46 the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

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

50 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2023.