

## House Resolution 446

By: Representatives Boddie of the 62<sup>nd</sup>, Kendrick of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, Jackson of the 64<sup>th</sup>, Douglas of the 78<sup>th</sup>, Alexander of the 66<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Johnny Tolbert III House Study Committee on Heatstroke; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, over 650 people in this country die per year from exposure to extreme heat.  
4 These deaths are preventable. Heat is considered a silent killer. It doesn't come in a toppling  
5 down of trees or lightning striking a field; and

6 WHEREAS, Georgia had the most heat-related football deaths in the country, with six  
7 between 1980 and 2009; and

8 WHEREAS, in recent years, Georgia has had heat-related football deaths to both youth and  
9 high school athletes; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2016, 12-year-old Johnny Tolbert III died from heatstroke during football  
11 practice for a youth recreation team at Welcome All Park in South Fulton, Georgia; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2015, Burke County High School football player Roddrick "Rod" Williams  
13 died shortly after football practice in Waynesboro, Georgia, from heat-related injuries; and

14 WHEREAS, the General Assembly must adopt measures to protect both youth and high  
15 school athletes from serious or even catastrophic injuries or illnesses that can be the  
16 consequences of a blinkered focus on competitiveness.

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

18 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the Johnny Tolbert III House  
19 Study Committee on Heatstroke.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of seven 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, 2017.