

House Resolution 868

By: Representatives Drenner of the 85th, Henson of the 86th, Mayo of the 84th, Oliver of the 82nd, Mitchell of the 88th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Municipalities, Annexations, and Local Forms of
2 Government in DeKalb County; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, in Georgia, counties may be organized using the traditional commission, sole
4 commissioner, elected executive, commission-administrator, or commission-manager form
5 of government; and

6 WHEREAS, county governments in Georgia have anywhere from one to nine
7 commissioners; and

8 WHEREAS, there are currently 535 municipalities in the State of Georgia, with others being
9 contemplated to be created in the near future; and

10 WHEREAS, in Georgia, most municipalities have one of the following forms of government:
11 the strong mayor-council form, the weak mayor-council form, or the council-manager form;
12 and

13 WHEREAS, under both the strong and weak mayor-council forms, executive and
14 policy-making roles and responsibilities are divided between the mayor and the city council;
15 under the council-manager form, the city council fills the primary policy-making role, and
16 an appointed city manager is responsible for the primary executive functions; and

17 WHEREAS, over the past decade, numerous cities have been created through the annexation
18 process, including within DeKalb County; and

19 WHEREAS, due to the increased interest in establishing new municipalities in DeKalb
20 County and the different forms of government that exist in this county, it is important to
21 evaluate whether all current forms of government are necessary and effective and the impact
22 annexations will have upon DeKalb County's government.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
24 there is created the House Study Committee on Municipalities, Annexations, and Local
25 Forms of Government in DeKalb County to be composed of five members of the DeKalb
26 County delegation of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House
27 of Representatives, one member appointed by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners,
28 one member appointed by the chief executive officer of DeKalb County, one member
29 appointed by the DeKalb County Chamber of Commerce, and one member appointed by the
30 DeKalb Municipal Association from its membership. The Speaker of the House of
31 Representatives shall appoint one of the members of the committee as chairperson. The
32 committee shall meet at the call of the chairperson.

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the above
34 issues and recommend any actions or legislation that the committee deems necessary or
35 appropriate. The committee may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as
36 it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers,
37 perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The
38 legislative members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative
39 members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five
40 days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions
41 of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives.
42 The committee shall publish a report of its findings and recommendations which may include
43 suggestions for proposed legislation. Such report shall be made on or before
44 December 31, 2013. The committee shall stand abolished on December 31, 2013.