

The House Committee on Ways and Means offers the following substitute to SR 214:

#### A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Service Delivery Strategy; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the service delivery strategy (SDS) is an important local government service  
3 allocation mechanism for counties and cities; and
- 4 WHEREAS, SDS agreements require periodic renegotiations; and
- 5 WHEREAS, these renegotiations are often contentious and pit counties and cities against one  
6 another, which is harmful to their residents; and
- 7 WHEREAS, these difficulties are frequently documented in the media, providing evidence  
8 of the disagreement between counties and cities; and
- 9 WHEREAS, dozens of counties and cities went to mediation during the 2022 renegotiations  
10 in an effort to resolve their differences; and
- 11 WHEREAS, revisions are needed to address SDS and those funding options intrinsically  
12 associated with SDS which require negotiations between local governments to help resolve  
13 these issues when counties and cities are at an impasse; and

S. R. 214 (SUB)

14 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial for the General Assembly to examine these issues and  
15 provide additional guidance to local governments on how to resolve SDS disputes in the  
16 future.

17 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
18 GEORGIA:

19 (1) **Creation of joint study committee.** There is created the Joint Study Committee on  
20 Service Delivery Strategy.

21 (2) **Members and officers.**

22 (A) The committee shall be composed of ten members.

23 (B) The President of the Senate shall appoint:

24 (i) Three members of the Senate, which shall include the chairperson of the Senate  
25 State and Local Governmental Operations Committee, and shall designate one such  
26 member as cochairperson of the committee;

27 (ii) A serving county commissioner from a county currently levying a local option  
28 sales tax (LOST); and

29 (iii) A mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST.

30 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint:

31 (i) Three members of the House of Representatives, which shall include the  
32 chairperson of the House Committee on Governmental Affairs, and shall designate one  
33 such member as cochairperson of the committee;

34 (ii) A serving county commissioner from a county currently levying a LOST; and

35 (iii) A mayor of a city within a county currently levying a LOST.

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

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

43 (5) **Committee assistance.** Officials and staff of the Association County Commissioners  
44 of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal Association, as well as affected local government  
45 officials and staff, are requested and encouraged to assist the committee in performing its  
46 duties and accomplishing the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

47 (6) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

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

55 (C) Members of the committee who are not legislators, state officials, or state employees  
56 shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that specified in  
57 subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, as  
58 well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state employees.

59 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received by  
60 any member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are  
61 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come  
62 from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives; except that  
63 funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative  
64 members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise  
65 available to their respective agencies.

66 (7) **Report.**

67 (A) In the event the committee adopts any specific findings or recommendations that  
68 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the  
69 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to  
70 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

71 (B) In the event the committee adopts a report that does not include suggestions for  
72 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph (C)  
73 of this paragraph.

74 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of  
75 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.  
76 A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the committee and filed  
77 with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives.

78 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the Secretary  
79 of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives copies of the minutes of the  
80 meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

81 (8) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2023.