

Senate Resolution 371

By: Senators Hatchett of the 50th, Watson of the 1st, Brass of the 28th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Gooch of the 51st and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Rural Medical Personnel Recruitment; and for other
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, rural hospitals face many challenges in delivering services to patients living and
4 working in the coverage area; and

5 WHEREAS, rural hospitals seek to provide surgical and procedural services despite
6 economic challenges and a lack of availability of health care professionals; and

7 WHEREAS, surgical and procedural treatment often require support services in anesthesia,
8 technology, and post-operative care; and

9 WHEREAS, rural hospital executives are challenged to recruit surgical personnel; and

10 WHEREAS, a study is needed to raise awareness of the challenges of rural hospitals to
11 recruit surgical personnel and to hire and retain surgical support personnel.

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE:

13 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
14 on Rural Medical Personnel Recruitment.

15 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
16 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate one
17 of such members as chairperson of the committee.

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

21 (4) **Meetings.** The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee. The committee
22 may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
23 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
24 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. No fewer than two meetings
25 shall be conducted in a county with a rural hospital organization, as defined in Code
26 Section 31-8-9.1.

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

33 (6) **Report.**

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

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

41 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
42 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
43 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
44 the Secretary of the Senate. Any member of the committee may file a minority report
45 that shall accompany the majority report.

46 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary
47 of the Senate copies of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

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