

Senate Resolution 85

By: Senators Walker III of the 20th, Dugan of the 30th, Anavitarte of the 31st, Setzler of the 37th, Still of the 48th and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Creating the Senate Occupational Licensing Study Committee; and for other purposes.
- 2 WHEREAS, the Georgia General Assembly strives to foster a robust workforce and thriving
3 business environment in this state; and
- 4 WHEREAS, onerous occupational licensing requirements can inhibit economic mobility,
5 limit job prospects, and hinder small businesses; and
- 6 WHEREAS, research has shown that this state has some of the country's more burdensome
7 occupational licensing laws; and
- 8 WHEREAS, veterans, military spouses, and others moving to this state who could fill jobs
9 in high demand fields often face challenges satisfying licensing requirements here; and
- 10 WHEREAS, it is in the state's best interests to examine its current occupational licensing
11 laws and requirements to determine if they should be modified or restructured so as to
12 encourage, promote, and foster employment and healthy business growth in this state; and

13 WHEREAS, it is important to review how other states have responsibly reformed
14 occupational licensing to streamline processes, reduce barriers to work, and eliminate
15 unnecessary rules and regulations to determine if this state could benefit from similar
16 reforms.

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

18 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Occupational
19 Licensing Study Committee.

20 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members to be
21 appointed by the President of the Senate as follows:

22 (A) The chairperson of the Senate Insurance and Labor Committee, who shall be the
23 chairperson of the committee;

24 (B) The chairperson of the Senate Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security
25 Committee, who shall be the vice chairperson of the committee; and

26 (C) Three members of the Senate who shall be selected based on their interest in and
27 experience with occupational licensing.

28 (3) **Powers and duties.** The committee shall undertake a study of the issues and problems
29 that may exist with occupational licensing laws and requirements in place across state and
30 local governments in Georgia or related thereto and recommend any action or legislation
31 which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

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

36 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.** The legislative members of the committee shall
37 receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia
38 Annotated. The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any

39 member of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized.
40 Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
41 appropriated to the Senate.

42 **(6) Report.**

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

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

50 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
51 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the committee.
52 A report so approved shall be signed by the chairperson of the committee and filed with
53 the Secretary of the Senate.

54 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Secretary of
55 the Senate a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu thereof.

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