

Senate Resolution 983

By: Senators Millar of the 40th, McKoon of the 29th, Orrock of the 36th and Wilkinson of the 50th

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, under the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) initiative, certain
4 individuals subject to deportation may apply for deferred action for a period of two years;
5 however, deferred action does not provide lawful status; and

6 WHEREAS, according to the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL), as of
7 October 29, 2015, at least 18 states offer in-state tuition benefits to certain individuals, also
8 known as unauthorized students, who apply for deferred action; and

9 WHEREAS, in Georgia, DACA students are unable to receive in-state tuition rates; and

10 WHEREAS, according to the NCSL, the United States Supreme Court decision in *Plyler v.*
11 *Doe* required states to provide all students with a K-12 public education, regardless of the
12 student's immigration status, although such decision did not extend beyond secondary
13 education; and

14 WHEREAS, generally, in the states that provide for in-state tuition benefits for DACA
15 individuals, students must live in the state and attend high school for a specified period;
16 graduate or receive their GED; be accepted to a public college or university; and sign an
17 affidavit stating their intention to file for legal immigration status; and

18 WHEREAS, an extensive study is needed to weigh the advantages and disadvantages of
19 extending in-state tuition benefits to DACA students.

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

21 (1) **Creation of Senate study committee.** There is created the Senate Study Committee
22 on Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals.

23 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of the chairperson of the
24 Senate Higher Education Committee and eight additional members of the Senate to be
25 appointed by the President of the Senate. The chairperson of the Senate Higher
26 Education Committee shall serve as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

34 (5) **Allowances and funding.**

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

37 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member
38 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds
39 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds
40 appropriated to the Senate.

41 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

55 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2016.