

## House Resolution 38

By: Representatives Kendrick of the 93<sup>rd</sup>, Smyre of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Shannon of the 84<sup>th</sup>, Scott of the 76<sup>th</sup>, and Burnough of the 77<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and  
2 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Fields; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia is home to ten Historically Black Colleges and Universities: Albany  
4 State University, Clark Atlanta University, Fort Valley State University, Interdenominational  
5 Theological Center, Morehouse College, Morehouse School of Medicine, Morris Brown  
6 College, Paine College, Savannah State University, and Spelman College; and

7 WHEREAS, Historically Black Colleges and Universities located in the State of Georgia are  
8 significant economic engines in metro Atlanta and East, Middle, and South Georgia; and

9 WHEREAS, Historically Black Colleges and Universities have made many significant  
10 contributions to the State of Georgia, including having historically served as the only option  
11 for African Americans interested in pursuing higher education, and will continue to play  
12 important roles with regard to access, education, research, and service; and

13 WHEREAS, Georgia accounts for roughly 10 percent of more than 100 Historically Black  
14 Colleges and Universities across our nation, and while these schools represent just 3 percent  
15 of our country's institutions of higher learning, they graduate nearly 20 percent of African  
16 Americans who earn undergraduate degrees; and

17 WHEREAS, according to the United Negro College Fund, Historically Black Colleges and  
18 Universities generate 25 percent of all bachelor's degrees in science, technology, engineering,  
19 and mathematics (STEM) fields earned by African Americans. Additionally, Historically  
20 Black Colleges and Universities award 14 percent of all African American engineering  
21 degrees at less than half the cost of other four-year colleges and universities; and

22 WHEREAS, Georgia is also home to innovation and technology hubs, entrepreneurship  
 23 centers, pre-accelerators, accelerators, incubators, angel investors, and venture investors such  
 24 as Opportunity Hub, the Gathering Spot, Amplify for Good, and 100 Black Angels; and

25 WHEREAS, a study is needed to better understand how Georgia's Historically Black  
 26 Colleges and Universities can make an impact on placing more students in STEM related  
 27 careers and becoming an essential part of Georgia's technology community, including:

- 28 • Examining ways in which Historically Black Colleges and Universities can partner with  
 29 the state to foster more diversity in entrepreneurship and state contracts.
- 30 • Finding ways to share resources with other state universities and colleges.
- 31 • Identifying "at risk" jobs because of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, including but not  
 32 limited to industry-wide and supply chain disruptive innovations and technologies such  
 33 as 5G, artificial intelligence, machine learning, quantum computing, virtual reality,  
 34 augmented reality, robotics, advanced manufacturing, blockchain, drone technology, the  
 35 gig economy, and high growth startup entrepreneurship and finding a way for colleges  
 36 and universities to offer in demand alternative credentials such as nanodegrees,  
 37 certifications, boot camps, and digital badges through our state Historically Black  
 38 Colleges and Universities network.
- 39 • Studying and tracking the placement of Historically Black Colleges and Universities  
 40 students in STEM jobs.
- 41 • Examining ways to fund curriculum design and faculty in STEM sectors.
- 42 • Identifying additional tour stops for prospective companies looking to relocate to  
 43 Georgia, which would showcase the racial and gender diversity of STEM, technology  
 44 talent, and small business suppliers in the state.

45 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

46 (1) **Creation of House study committee.** There is created the House Study Committee  
 47 on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and Science, Technology, Engineering,  
 48 and Mathematics (STEM) Fields.

49 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of six members of the  
 50 House of Representatives to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of  
 51 Representatives, at least three of whom shall be members of the minority caucus. The  
 52 Speaker shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

61 (A) Members of the committee who are members of the General Assembly shall  
62 receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of  
63 Georgia Annotated.

64 (B) The allowances authorized by this resolution shall not be received by any member  
65 of the committee for more than five days unless additional days are authorized. Funds  
66 necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from funds  
67 appropriated to the House of Representatives.

68 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

80 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the chairperson may file with the Clerk of the  
81 House of Representatives a copy of the minutes of the meetings of the committee in lieu  
82 thereof.

83 (7) **Abolishment.** The committee shall stand abolished on December 1, 2019.