

Senate Resolution 325

By: Senators Parent of the 42nd, Dugan of the 30th, Mullis of the 53rd, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Williams of the 39th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on Portable Benefits for Independent Workers; and for
2 other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the nature of the economy and the workforce is rapidly changing, resulting in
4 traditional employment relationships becoming less common; and

5 WHEREAS, there is growing recognition that most policies supporting employee benefits
6 are still tied to a model of traditional full-time employment; and

7 WHEREAS, as more Georgians engage in temporary, contract, on-demand or other
8 alternative work arrangements, there is a need to evaluate how these independent workers
9 can access benefits and protections commonly provided to traditional full-time employees;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, portable benefit models provide employee benefits outside the traditional
12 employment relationship and allow independent workers to carry benefits with them from
13 job to job or project to project; and

14 WHEREAS, there is an increasing awareness and interest in Georgia's business community
15 regarding portable benefit models and their potential role in encouraging innovation,
16 entrepreneurship, and a modern economy; and

17 WHEREAS, it would be beneficial to study the usefulness and implementation of portable
18 benefits in order to determine the most effective way to structure employment benefits to
19 support a more independent 21st century workforce.

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 Portable Benefits for Independent Workers.

23 (2) **Members and officers.** The committee shall be composed of five members of the
24 Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. The President shall designate a
25 member of the committee as chairperson of the committee.

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

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

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

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

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

40 (6) **Report.**

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

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

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

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

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