

House Resolution 935 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Tanner of the 9th, Trammell of the 132nd, Smyre of the 135th, Carpenter of the 4th, and McCall of the 33rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, the Georgia Commission on Freight and Logistics was established in 2019 with
3 the task of developing a comprehensive, strategic business plan to promote state-wide freight
4 and logistics infrastructure in order for this state to remain economically competitive; and

5 WHEREAS, throughout 2019, the commission met in locations around the state and
6 identified a need for providing for a system of freight and logistics investment and for
7 creating efficiency and coordination among providers of freight and logistics in order to
8 improve mobility across this state; and

9 WHEREAS, the commission found that further study is needed to consider unique and
10 specific solutions for trucking, rail, and air cargo, including reducing the driving risks for
11 truck drivers and other motorists, expanding dedicated lanes for moving freight, and reducing
12 traffic impacts in and out of the ports and around key metropolitan areas; and

13 WHEREAS, continuing the work of this commission is necessary to determine the best
14 course of action with regard to funding and policy development relating to freight and
15 logistics through legislative and budgetary recommendations; and

16 WHEREAS, subject to availability of funds from the budget of the Senate and the House of
17 Representatives, such study may include a contract for the provision of private consulting
18 and any other services deemed necessary for purposes of addressing the areas identified in
19 this resolution; and

20 WHEREAS, any professionals retained to assist in analysis or consultation pursuant to this
21 resolution shall be professionals in freight and logistics analysis, with global or national
22 prominence in the following areas:

23 (1) Experience working with multiple freight and logistics providers;

- 24 (2) Experience delivering freight and logistics strategy for multijurisdictional or
25 state-wide entities;
- 26 (3) Strong financial consulting practices that have applicability to multiple funding or
27 financial approaches for freight and logistics;
- 28 (4) Approaches to promoting economic development; and
- 29 (5) Demonstrated knowledge and proven experience in strategic development.

30 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

31 (1) **Creation of joint commission.** There is created the Georgia Commission on Freight
32 and Logistics.

33 (2) **Members and officers.** The commission shall consist of the following members,
34 who shall, whenever possible, be the individuals appointed to serve on the 2019
35 commission:

36 (A) Three members of the Senate appointed by the President of the Senate, including
37 the chairperson of the Senate Transportation Committee;

38 (B) Three members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the
39 House of Representatives, including the chairperson of the House Committee on
40 Transportation;

41 (C) Three members appointed by the President of the Senate who represent entities
42 which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the operations of a
43 major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air shipping provider, or
44 major manufacturing operation based in this state;

45 (D) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who
46 represent entities which provide freight and logistics services; possess expertise in the
47 operations of a major airport hub; or lead a major commodity shipper, major air
48 shipping provider, or major manufacturing operation based in this state;

49 (E) Four members who each serve as a local government official, with two appointed
50 by the President of the Senate and two appointed by the Speaker of the House of
51 Representatives;

52 (F) The executive director of the Georgia Municipal Association or his or her
53 designee;

54 (G) The executive director of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his
55 or her designee;

56 (H) The president or chairperson of the Georgia Chamber of Commerce;

57 (I) The president or chairperson of the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce;

58 (J) The commissioner of transportation, ex officio; and

59 (K) The executive director of the Georgia Ports Authority, ex officio.

60 The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall each
61 select a member to serve as cochairpersons of the commission.

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

65 (4) **Meetings.** The cochairpersons shall call all meetings of the commission. The
66 commission may conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem
67 necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform
68 its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution.

69 (5) **Allowances, expenses, and funding.**

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

72 (B) Members of the commission who are state officials, other than legislative
73 members, or state employees shall receive no compensation for their services on the
74 commission, but they may be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the
75 performance of their duties as members of the commission in the same manner as they
76 are reimbursed for expenses in their capacities as state officials or employees.

77 (C) Members of the commission who are not legislators, state officials, or state
78 employees shall receive a daily expense allowance in an amount the same as that
79 specified in subsection (b) of Code Section 45-7-21 of the Official Code of Georgia
80 Annotated, as well as the mileage or transportation allowance authorized for state
81 employees.

82 (D) The allowances and expenses authorized by this resolution shall not be received
83 by any member of the commission for more than five days unless additional days are
84 authorized. Funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
85 from funds appropriated to the Senate and the House of Representatives; except that
86 funds for the reimbursement of the expenses of state officials, other than legislative
87 members, and state employees shall come from funds appropriated to or otherwise
88 available to their respective agencies.

89 (6) **Report.**

90 (A) In the event the commission adopts any specific findings or recommendations that
91 include suggestions for proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file a report of the
92 same prior to the date of abolishment specified in this resolution, subject to
93 subparagraph (C) of this paragraph.

94 (B) In the event the commission adopts a report that does not include suggestions for
95 proposed legislation, the cochairpersons shall file the report, subject to subparagraph
96 (C) of this paragraph.

97 (C) No report shall be filed unless the same has been approved prior to the date of
98 abolishment specified in this resolution by majority vote of a quorum of the
99 commission. A report so approved shall be signed by the cochairpersons of the
100 commission and filed with the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of
101 Representatives.

102 (D) In the absence of an approved report, the cochairpersons may file with the
103 Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives a copy of the
104 minutes of the meetings of the commission in lieu thereof.

105 (7) **Abolishment.** The commission shall submit the report and proposal required by
106 paragraph (6) not later than December 31, 2020, at which time such proposal shall be
107 published and the commission shall stand abolished.