

Senate Resolution 66

By: Senators Staton of the 18th, Williams of the 19th, Johnson of the 1st, Shafer of the 48th, Chance of the 16th and others

ADOPTED SENATE

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee on the Shortage of Doctors and Nurses in Georgia; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, Georgia is faced with a medical crisis in the staffing of hospitals and health care
4 facilities in this state and a lack of physicians to care for its citizens; and

5 WHEREAS, there is a need to ensure that all Georgians have access to quality health care
6 that cannot be met with the existing number of practicing nurses and doctors; and

7 WHEREAS, there are areas in this state where there are few, if any, physicians within easy
8 accessibility of the citizens residing there; and

9 WHEREAS, many hospitals and other healthcare facilities are struggling to staff their
10 facilities with nursing personnel to care adequately for the patients in such facilities and the
11 nursing staffs are overworked and unable many times to meet the basic care needs of the
12 patients; and

13 WHEREAS, there is a need to examine these issues to determine if legislative action is
14 needed to ensure that there is an adequate number of doctors and nurses in this state.

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate
16 Study Committee on the Shortage of Doctors and Nurses in Georgia to be composed of seven
17 members of the Senate to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor. The Lieutenant
18 Governor shall designate one of the members of the committee to serve as chairperson of the
19 committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
21 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
22 or legislation that the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may

1 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
2 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
3 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The members of the committee
4 shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim legislative
5 committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional days are
6 authorized. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come
7 from the funds appropriated to the Senate. In the event that the committee makes a report
8 of its findings and recommendations with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such
9 report shall be made on or before December 31, 2007. The committee shall stand abolished
10 on December 31, 2007.