**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

TO ESTABLISH A JOINT STUDY COMMITTEE ON THE CONSOLIDATION OF STATE AGENCIES, PROVIDE FOR ITS MEMBERSHIP AND DUTIES, REQUIRE SUBMISSION OF RECOMMENDATIONS, AND PROVIDE FOR ITS TERMINATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. A. There is established the Joint Study Committee on the Consolidation of State Agencies. The purpose of the committee is to review the feasibility and costs savings related to the consolidation of certain state agencies with the following objectives:

(1) identifying a consolidation plan that generates at least three hundred fifty million dollars in savings; and

(2) applying the funds generated only to offset recurring state expenditures.

B. The savings generated in the first year of the implementation of the consolidation plan must be used only for reduction of the state’s debt.

C. The Joint Study Committee must be composed of the Governor, or his designee; Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, or his designee; the Chairman of the Senate Finance committee, or his designee; and the Chairman of the House Ways and Means committee, or his designee. Designees, if appointed, must be from within the respective committee. The study committee may solicit input from agency heads and from other sources as necessary.

D. Recommendations for elimination of duplication within state agencies and costs savings mechanisms must be reported to the General Assembly by January 15, 2010, at which time the committee is dissolved.

SECTION 2. This joint resolution takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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