

## House Resolution 280

By: Representatives Cooke of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Dudgeon of the 25<sup>th</sup>, Brockway of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, Caldwell of the 20<sup>th</sup>, Clark of the 147<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the United States Congress to repeal the Seventeenth Amendment to the United  
2 States Constitution; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the original intent of the authors of the United States Constitution with regard  
4 to the legislative branch was to divide the legislature into two different branches, and both  
5 of these branches were to have different modes of election and different principles of action;  
6 and

7 WHEREAS, in the Federalist Papers No. 45, James Madison stated, "The Senate will be  
8 elected absolutely and exclusively by the State legislatures"; and

9 WHEREAS, the original purpose of the United States Senate was to protect the sovereignty  
10 of the states from the federal government and to give each individual state government  
11 representation in the federal legislative branch of government; and

12 WHEREAS, the Seventeenth Amendment has resulted in a large federal government with  
13 power and control that cannot be checked by the states; and

14 WHEREAS, with the repeal of the Seventeenth Amendment, no law or resolution could be  
15 passed without the concurrence of a majority of the representatives of the people and a  
16 majority of the representatives of the states; and

17 WHEREAS, the restoration of the United States Constitution by repealing the Seventeenth  
18 Amendment would provide that the United States Senators be accountable to their respective  
19 state legislatures by whom they were elected; and

20 WHEREAS, since the ratification of the Seventeenth Amendment in 1913, the size and scope  
21 of the federal government has grown exponentially and has severely weakened the powers

22 held by the individual states and the people as acknowledged by the Tenth Amendment to  
23 the United States Constitution; and

24 WHEREAS, the United States Senate was designed to protect the rights and interests of the  
25 individual states, and the repeal of the Seventeenth Amendment would help to prevent the  
26 many unfunded mandates and unconstitutional laws passed onto those states by the federal  
27 government.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
29 GEORGIA that the members of this body request the United States Congress to repeal the  
30 Seventeenth Amendment to the United States Constitution.

31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
32 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the  
33 Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of  
34 Representatives, each member of the Georgia congressional delegation, and the presiding  
35 officer of each house of the legislature in each state.