

House Bill 1247

By: Representative Stephens of the 150th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 12-5-96 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 permits to withdraw, obtain, or use ground water, a water conservation plan, factors to be
3 considered, and notice of official action, as to provide that in addition to any limitation upon
4 the withdrawal of ground water from the coastal region of the state imposed by the
5 Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources, an additional
6 withdrawal of 20 million gallons per day shall be permitted for domestic purposes; to repeal
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Code Section 12-5-96 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to permits to
11 withdraw, obtain, or use ground water, a water conservation plan, factors to be considered,
12 and notice of official action, is amended by inserting at the end thereof the following:

13 "(i) In addition to any limitation upon the withdrawal of ground water from the coastal
14 region of the state imposed by the Environmental Protection Division of the Department
15 of Natural Resources in effect on July 1, 2001, and notwithstanding any such limit
16 previously placed on any county, the division shall permit an additional withdrawal of 20
17 million gallons per day in such region; provided, however, that such excess withdrawal
18 shall be permitted only for domestic purposes upon the basis of demonstrated need. Such
19 additional withdrawal shall be accomplished either through the modification of existing
20 ground water withdrawal permits or the grant of new permits at any rate."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.