

## House Resolution 1069

By: Representatives Manning of the 32<sup>nd</sup>, Hanner of the 159<sup>th</sup>, Shanahan of the 10<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 103<sup>rd</sup>, McCall of the 90<sup>th</sup> and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Encouraging the development and application of plasma-arc torch technology for solid waste  
2 management in Georgia and urging the cooperation and guidance of the Environmental  
3 Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, 12.7 million tons of solid waste were landfilled in Georgia in Fiscal Year 2000;  
5 and

6 WHEREAS, the amount of waste going to Georgia landfills has increased every year since  
7 accurate measurement began in 1992; and

8 WHEREAS, solid waste landfills occupy an increasing portion of Georgia each year; and

9 WHEREAS, plasma-arc torch technology offers an alternative means of managing solid  
10 waste that would reduce Georgia's dependence on landfills; and

11 WHEREAS, plasma-arc torch technology is not an incineration process, but an extremely  
12 high temperature thermal treatment technology capable of extracting useful energy from  
13 solid waste; and

14 WHEREAS, plasma-arc torch technology is apparently capable of treating  
15 asbestos-containing waste, infectious biomedical waste, hazardous waste, and radioactive  
16 waste to the extent required to eliminate threats posed by such wastes to human health and  
17 the environment; and

18 WHEREAS, permits are required from the Environmental Protection Division of the  
19 Department of Natural Resources before plasma-arc torch technology can be implemented  
20 as a solid waste thermal treatment technology; and

1 WHEREAS, cooperation and guidance from the Environmental Protection Division of the  
2 Department of Natural Resources in the permitting of a plasma-arc torch facility is desired  
3 to encourage the development of such a facility in Georgia.

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
5 this body urges the Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural  
6 Resources to assist any applicant desiring to locate a plasma-arc torch facility for the  
7 purposes of disposing of solid waste in Georgia by meeting with prospective applicants to  
8 facilitate understanding of the regulatory requirements and processes, educating local  
9 governments and the Georgia citizenry on the relative benefits of plasma-arc torch  
10 technology compared to current landfill disposal practices, and reviewing all permit  
11 applications for such a facility in a timely and expeditious manner.

12 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
13 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the director of the  
14 Environmental Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources.