

Senate Bill 438

By: Senators Thompson of the 33rd, Stokes of the 43rd and Tanksley of the 32nd

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Code Section 36-22-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 creation of the Georgia Greenspace Trust Fund, so as to provide for an allocation of certain
3 funds; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 36-22-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of
7 the Georgia Greenspace Trust Fund, is amended by striking the word "and" at the end of
8 paragraph (2) of subsection (b); by redesignating paragraph (3) of subsection (b) as
9 paragraph (4) of subsection (b); and by inserting immediately following paragraph (2) of
10 subsection (b) the following:

11 "(3) For any county which is entitled to receive appropriated funds in excess of
12 \$500,000.00 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection and upon the approval of the
13 commission as provided in this chapter, the Department of Natural Resources shall make
14 disbursements as follows:

15 (i) One or more grants totaling 90 percent of the amount the county is authorized to
16 receive shall be allocated to the Community Greenspace Trust Funds created by the
17 county and each municipality located in whole or in part within the county as provided
18 in paragraph (3) of Code Section 36-22-6; and

19 (ii) Ten percent of the amount the county is authorized to receive shall be allocated to
20 the participating municipalities located within the county as one or more matching
21 grants for greenspace acquisition. The Board of Natural Resources shall promulgate
22 rules necessary to implement such matching grant program in such a manner as to
23 encourage municipalities to generate local funds for such purposes as greenspace
24 planning, acquisition, and management. Any such matching funds not disbursed by the
25 date determined pursuant to paragraph (4) of this subsection shall be disbursed to the
26 county's Community Greenspace Trust Fund."

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SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.