

The Senate Transportation Committee offered the following substitute to HR 130:

#### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Joint Study Committee on Urban Road Building Guidelines; to provide  
2 an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the policy of the State of Georgia is to create and maintain more  
4 pedestrian-friendly roadways while maintaining the necessary goals and standards for  
5 less developed areas; and

6 WHEREAS, currently, the Department of Transportation uses "A Policy on  
7 Geometric Design of Highways and Streets" as its guidelines for the building of state  
8 highways in urban, suburban, and rural areas; and

9 WHEREAS, the policy guidelines focus primarily on accommodating motor vehicles;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, the policy guidelines emphasize mobility between and through towns  
12 over accessibility within a town; and

13 WHEREAS, this emphasis on mobility over accessibility has often resulted in the  
14 decline of urban commercial areas and in vehicle speeds that are inappropriate in  
15 areas with high pedestrian traffic; and

16 WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration recommends flexibility in road  
17 design; and

18 WHEREAS, there is now a need to take into account recent developments in  
19 pedestrian facilities and designs; and

20 WHEREAS, pedestrian fatalities in metro Atlanta increased 13 percent from 1994 to  
21 1998 at the same time that they declined nearly 10 percent nationwide; and

1 WHEREAS, the Atlanta region is ranked nationally as one of the nation's most  
2 dangerous for pedestrians and is therefore focusing more and more on  
3 accommodating pedestrians; and

4 WHEREAS, a thorough study of all the criteria used could produce more flexible  
5 urban standards and bring the urban, suburban, and rural areas closer to the ultimate  
6 goal of building roads which are in harmony with community values.

7 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF  
8 GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 There is created the Joint Study Committee on Urban Road Building Guidelines to be  
11 composed of 11 members. The President of the Senate shall appoint three members  
12 of the Senate, one each from Augusta, Albany, and Macon. The Speaker of the House  
13 of Representatives shall appoint three members, one each from Atlanta, Savannah,  
14 and Columbus. The committee members shall also include the Chief of Planning for  
15 the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA); the Chief of Planning for the  
16 Department of Transportation (DOT); one member from the Board of Transportation;  
17 the chairperson of the House Transportation Committee; the chairperson of the Senate  
18 Committee on Transportation.

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 The committee shall undertake a study of the conditions, needs, issues, and problems  
21 mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions or legislation which  
22 the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may conduct such  
23 meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to  
24 enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
25 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members  
26 of the committee shall receive the allowances provided for in Code Section 28-1-8 of  
27 the O.C.G.A. but shall receive the same for not more than five days unless additional  
28 days are authorized. The state officials shall receive no compensation for their  
29 services on the committee, but they shall be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them  
30 in the performance of their duties as members of the committee. The members of the  
31 committee who are not legislative members or state officials or their designees shall  
32 receive no compensation for their services on the committee. The funds necessary for

1 the reimbursement of the expenses of the state officials or their designees shall come  
2 from funds appropriated or otherwise available to their respective departments. All  
3 other funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution shall come from  
4 the funds appropriated to or otherwise available to the House of Representatives and  
5 Senate. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and  
6 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall  
7 be made on or before December 1, 2002. The committee shall stand abolished on  
8 December 1, 2002.

9 **SECTION 3.**

10 This resolution shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its  
11 becoming law without such approval.

12 **SECTION 4.**

13 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this resolution are repealed.