

Senate Bill 104

By: Senators Polak of the 42nd, Hecht of the 34th, Fort of the 39th and Tate of the 38th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 20 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 personnel administration matters regarding public officers and employees, so as to make
3 certain findings and declarations regarding the benefits of alternative means of commuting;
4 to require certain departments and agencies of the executive branch of state government to
5 adopt policies to allow and encourage use of alternative means of commuting; to require the
6 Governor, or the Governor's designee, to coordinate such efforts so that at least 20 percent
7 of state employees whose regular duty work stations are in counties of 400,000 or more will
8 be using alternative means of commuting by the end of the year 2003; to repeal conflicting
9 laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Chapter 20 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to personnel
13 administration matters regarding public officers and employees, is amended by adding at the
14 end thereof a new article, to be designated as Article 7, to read as follows:

15 "ARTICLE 7

16 45-20-120.

17 The General Assembly finds and declares that:

18 (1) Automobile traffic congestion is a significant problem in highly populated areas of
19 this state;

20 (2) Use of alternative means of transportation to and from work by persons employed in
21 such areas, along with working at home through the use of telecommuting, can help ease
22 traffic congestion and reduce the associated pollution caused by automobile emissions;
23 and

1 (3) The State of Georgia and its employees should participate in utilizing such means of
2 mitigating traffic congestion in highly populated areas.

3 45-20-121.

4 (a) As used in this Code section, the term

5 (1) 'Alternative means of commuting' means telecommuting or ways of reaching a duty
6 station other than use of a passenger motor vehicle during peak hours, including without
7 limitation mass transit, bicycling, van pools, walking, and use of a passenger motor
8 vehicle during off-peak hours.

9 (2) 'Off-peak hours' means hours other than peak hours.

10 (3) 'Passenger motor vehicle' means a motor vehicle designed to carry ten passengers or
11 fewer and used for the transportation of persons.

12 (4) 'Peak hours' means the hours of 7:00 A.M. to 9:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.
13 on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday of any week.

14 (5) 'Telecommuting' means the process by which an employee working outside his or her
15 regular duty work station remains in contact with his or her fellow employees and
16 supervisors through a combination of voice telephone calls, voice mail, electronic mail,
17 paging, facsimile transmissions, electronic document exchanges, or other methods of
18 communication.

19 (b) Each department or agency of the executive branch of state government shall, by
20 January 1, 2002, adopt a policy to allow and encourage its employees who are classified
21 as full time at any regular duty work station located in any county of 400,000 or more
22 according the United States decennial census of 1990 or any future such census to utilize
23 alternative means of commuting. It shall be the duty of the Governor, or the Governor's
24 designee, to coordinate the efforts of such departments and agencies, so that at least 20
25 percent of all full-time employees of such departments and agencies who are classified as
26 full time at any regular duty work station located in any county of 400,000 or more
27 according the United States decennial census of 1990 or any future such census will be
28 utilizing alternative means of commuting at least three days per week on and after
29 December 31, 2002."

30 **SECTION 2.**

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