

## Senate Resolution 229

By: Senators Lamutt of the 21<sup>st</sup> and Polak of the 42<sup>nd</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the Senate Study Committee for the Reduction of Underground Utility  
2 Interruptions; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, many Georgia residents and businesses have been adversely affected by utility  
4 outages and road traffic interruptions caused by numerous recent utility line cuts by  
5 construction and installation crews; and

6 WHEREAS, utility line cuts create the potential for a substantial public safety risk in  
7 addition to business interruption, traffic congestion, and lost hours of economic productivity;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, in many instances, utility facilities were not accurately depicted or updated on  
10 available maps.

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that there is created the Senate  
12 Study Committee for the Reduction of Underground Utility Interruptions to be composed of  
13 nine members of the Senate to be appointed by the President of the Senate. Members shall  
14 be appointed from both public and private entities, including, but not limited to:

- 15 (1) Three senators;
- 16 (2) State, county, and local government officials, one from the Public Service  
17 Commission and Utilities Protection Center;
- 18 (3) One telecommunications, electric, gas, water, sewer, and cable television utility  
19 representative;
- 20 (4) One representative from the Georgia GIS Data Clearinghouse;
- 21 (5) One representative from the Open Geodata Consortium (OGETA); and
- 22 (6) One representative from the construction industry.

23 The President of the Senate shall designate a member of the committee as chairperson of the  
24 committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
2 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions  
3 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may  
4 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or  
5 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and  
6 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The legislative members of the  
7 committee shall receive the allowances authorized for legislative members of interim  
8 legislative committees but shall receive the same for not more than five days. Members of  
9 the committee who are not legislative members shall receive no compensation for their  
10 services on the committee and shall not be reimbursed for expenses incurred by them in the  
11 performance of their duties as members of the committee. The funds necessary to carry out  
12 the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the legislative  
13 branch of government. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and  
14 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be  
15 made to the Governor and General Assembly on or before November 1, 2001. The  
16 committee shall stand abolished on November 1, 2001.