

House Bill 149

By: Representative Rogers of the 20th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the
2 "Georgia Water Quality Control Act," so as to provide for the monitoring of the discharge
3 of storm-water runoff into any reservoir or recreational lake in the state by a county or
4 municipality; to provide for rules and regulations relating to such monitoring and the
5 reduction or elimination of the discharge of hydrocarbon compounds in storm-water runoff;
6 to provide for the identification of allowable equipment or devices capable of reducing the
7 levels of hydrocarbon compounds contained in storm-water runoff; to provide for notice of
8 noncompliance; to provide for a civil penalty; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
9 purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 Article 2 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the "Georgia
13 Water Quality Control Act," is amended by inserting immediately following Code Section
14 12-5-23.3 a new Code section to read as follows:

15 "12-5-23.4.

16 (a) Not later than December 31, 2001, the division shall identify all sources of storm-water
17 runoff through a discharge system maintained by any county or municipality which
18 discharges directly into any reservoir or recreational lake in this state. The division shall
19 devise and implement a schedule of inspection for all such discharge systems so as to
20 ensure that each system receives an inspection and discharge monitoring not less frequently
21 than once every three years. Such inspection shall be designed to ensure that any pollution
22 control equipment required pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section is being
23 maintained in satisfactory condition and that the discharge from each device is in
24 compliance with rules and regulations promulgated pursuant to this Code section.

25 (b) The board is authorized and directed to establish by rule or regulation the maximum

1 level of hydrocarbon compounds allowed in storm-water runoff, which level shall be the
2 lowest amount possible using technology currently readily available. The board shall
3 establish the maximum permissible discharge permitted so as not to leave a sheen on the
4 water. The board shall by rule or regulation identify equipment or devices authorized for
5 use by counties and municipalities to reduce or eliminate hydrocarbon compound discharge
6 in storm-water runoff, which shall be the most effective equipment or devices currently
7 readily available.

8 (c) If the monitoring provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section discloses a level
9 of hydrocarbon content in storm-water runoff in excess of the level established by the
10 board as provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, the director shall so notify the
11 governing authority of the county or municipality, advising it of the equipment or devices
12 available to bring the discharge system into compliance with rules and regulations. If the
13 discharge system is not in compliance with such rules and regulations within one year of
14 such notice of noncompliance, the county or municipality shall pay a civil fine of
15 \$10,000.00 for each day thereafter in which there is storm-water runoff containing levels
16 of hydrocarbon compounds in excess of the allowable level."

17 **SECTION 2.**

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