

Senate Resolution 417

By: Senators Paul of the 40<sup>th</sup> and Price of the 56<sup>th</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Urging that the Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority Overview Committee  
2 (MARTOC) evaluate certain commercial development actions and authority of the  
3 Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority (MARTA); and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, MARTA was established in 1965 to provide a mass transit system for the  
5 metropolitan Atlanta area; and

6 WHEREAS, in addition to establishing an excellent rapid transit system, MARTA has  
7 engaged in a number of commercial development activities in an effort to provide smart  
8 growth and diversify its operating funding base; and

9 WHEREAS, recent litigation appears to have established that MARTA was within its legal  
10 authority in several challenged recent commercial development activities; and

11 WHEREAS, in carrying out those activities MARTA should give sufficient consideration to  
12 issues of air quality, traffic congestion, and mitigation of the impact on existing communities  
13 adjacent to MARTA's commercial development activities; and

14 WHEREAS, the General Assembly needs to explore whether amendments to the law creating  
15 MARTA are necessary to condition such activities upon proper consideration of the above  
16 and other issues; and

17 WHEREAS, MARTOC was created in 1973 to evaluate the performance of MARTA and  
18 exercise broad oversight with regard to MARTA.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body  
20 urge that MARTOC undertake a thorough review of the commercial development activities  
21 of MARTA to determine whether changes in the law creating MARTA may be necessary to  
22 condition such activities upon compliance with legislatively established standards relating

1 to air quality, traffic congestion, and mitigation of the impact on existing communities  
2 adjacent to MARTA's commercial development activities, and such other factors as the  
3 committee may determine.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed  
5 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the chairperson and vice chairperson of  
6 MARTOC.