

House Bill 33 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Coleman of the 142nd, Hanner of the 159th, Ray of the 128th, Walker of the 141st, James of the 140th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 12-2-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 composition of the Board of Natural Resources, so as to provide that certain members of such
3 board shall have certain qualifications; to amend Code Section 12-6-2 of the Official Code
4 of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of the State Forestry Commission and the
5 composition of such commission, so as to add additional members; to provide for related
6 matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 12-2-21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the composition
10 of the Board of Natural Resources, is amended by striking said Code section in its entirety
11 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

12 "12-2-21.

13 The Board of Natural Resources shall consist of one member from each congressional
14 district in this state; one ~~additional~~ member from one of the following named counties:
15 Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, or Camden; one member who is a person
16 engaged within this state in the business of producing or causing to be produced for market
17 any agricultural commodity; and ~~four~~ three members from the state at large. The members
18 shall be appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. In appointing the
19 members from the congressional districts, the Governor shall consider appointing one
20 person who is a licensed physician with experience in the health effects of environmental
21 pollution and one person who is a forest landowner or a registered forester. ~~Except as~~
22 ~~otherwise specifically provided in this Code section, members~~ Members shall be appointed
23 for a term of seven years from the expiration of the previous term. The ~~four~~ members
24 serving on July 1, 2002, from the state at large shall be appointed initially for terms of one,
25 ~~three, five, and seven years, respectively, to be designated by the Governor~~ serve out the

1 remainder of their terms; all succeeding appointments ~~of at-large members~~ shall be for a
 2 term of seven years. In as far as it is practical, the members of the Board of Natural
 3 Resources shall be representative of all areas and functions encompassed within the
 4 Department of Natural Resources. All members of the Board of Natural Resources shall
 5 hold office until their successors are appointed and qualified. Vacancies in office shall be
 6 filled by appointment by the Governor and submitted to the Senate for confirmation at the
 7 next session of the General Assembly after the making of the appointment. Any member
 8 so appointed shall serve until the expiration of the vacated term. No more than two
 9 members shall come from the same congressional district."

10 SECTION 2.

11 Code Section 12-6-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of
 12 the State Forestry Commission and the composition of such commission, is amended by
 13 striking subsection (b) of said Code section in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof the
 14 following:

15 "(b) The commission shall be composed of ~~five~~ seven members. ~~Three~~ Four of the
 16 members shall be owners, or representatives of owners, of 50 acres or more of forest land
 17 within the State of Georgia and two members shall be manufacturers or processors of forest
 18 products, or representatives thereof. The members of the commission shall be appointed
 19 by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate and shall hold office until their successors
 20 are appointed and qualified."

21 SECTION 3.

22 Section 1 of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2002. The remaining sections of this
 23 Act shall become effective on approval of this Act by the Governor or its becoming law
 24 without such approval.

25 SECTION 4.

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