

Senate Resolution 15

By: Senators Haines of the 46th, Ray of the 48th, Butler of the 55th, Jackson of the 50th and Balfour of the 9th

AS PASSED

A RESOLUTION

Urging the governing authorities of Gwinnett County, Barrow County, Oconee County, and Athens-Clark County to enact zoning and land use ordinances which support and are consistent with the development plans being offered by the Department of Transportation for the University Parkway portion of State Route 316; and for other purposes.

WHEREAS, State Route 316/University Parkway extends from Interstate 85 in Gwinnett County through the length of Barrow County to the Athens Loop in Oconee County; and

WHEREAS, it connects many of the state's institutions of higher learning, including Emory University, the Georgia Institute of Technology, the University Center in Gwinnett County, and the University of Georgia; and

WHEREAS, developing high technology research is a state priority endorsed by the Governor, and State Route 316/University Parkway is essential in linking university technology research to the high technology research industry; and

WHEREAS, local government officials, business leaders, research scientists, and regional leaders view University Parkway as a vital transportation corridor with a tremendous potential for high quality economic development; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has initiated and developed a comprehensive plan with strategic directives supporting the envisioned growth and development of a high technology research industry along the length of the corridor; and

WHEREAS, there is a crucial need for commitment, coordination, and cooperation between local and state government officials to ensure that the quality of life amenities and economic development opportunities inherent in this project are fully realized; and

WHEREAS, the implementation of the Department of Transportation's directives for University Parkway is dependent upon the support and cooperation of the governing

authorities of the affected counties in enacting sign ordinances to protect the integrity of the corridor and in developing infrastructure, zoning, and land use plans that are consistent with the high quality development envisioned by the Department of Transportation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA that the members of this body urge the governing authorities of Gwinnett County, Barrow County, Oconee County, and Athens-Clarke County to pledge their full support and cooperation in implementing the Department of Transportation's plan for State Route 316/University Parkway by exercising their authority in enacting appropriate and necessary ordinances relating to zoning and land use consistent with planned development for the corridor.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed to transmit appropriate copies of this resolution to the boards of commissioners of Gwinnett, Barrow, Oconee, and Athens-Clarke counties.