

House Bill 410

By: Representatives Buckner of the 82nd, Dodson of the 84th, Post 1, Barnes of the 84th, Post 2 and Hill of the 81st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conservation and
2 natural resources, so as to provide for definitions; to provide for rules and regulations
3 defining construction requirements for new housing to be certified as environmentally sound;
4 to provide for advertisement as certified; to prohibit advertisement of uncertified housing as
5 certified; to provide a penalty; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to conservation and natural
9 resources, is amended by inserting a new chapter to be designated Chapter 17 to read as
10 follows:

11 "CHAPTER 17

12 12-17-1.

13 As used in this chapter, the term 'environmentally sound' means constructed in keeping
14 with practices reasonably designed to reduce or minimize pollution of air, earth, and water,
15 and to reduce or minimize use of energy for lighting, heating, and cooling the structure
16 after completion. Evaluation of a structure for environmental soundness shall include but
17 not be limited to the materials used in construction, the methods of construction, and the
18 solution of problems or exploitation of opportunities offered by the site of the structure.

19 12-17-2.

20 The department is authorized and directed to promulgate rules and regulations defining
21 construction requirements for new housing to be certified as environmentally sound and
22 providing for procedures for application for certification.

1 12-17-3.
2 If new housing has been certified as environmentally sound, broadcast and print
3 advertisement for such new housing may use the term 'certified as environmentally sound
4 by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.' Advertisement of uncertified new
5 housing with such term or other language indicating approval by the department or the state
6 for environmental compliance shall be unlawful and shall be punished as a misdemeanor."

7 **SECTION 2.**

8 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.