

House Bill 672

By: Representatives Jones of the 38th, Sheldon of the 71st, Post 2, Drenner of the 57th, Burkhalter of the 36th, Martin of the 37th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 12-6-24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 providing notice of timber harvesting operations, so as to limit the effect on local regulation
3 of certain timber harvesting operations; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 12-6-24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to providing notice
7 of timber harvesting operations, is amended by striking subsection (e) and inserting in lieu
8 thereof the following:

9 "(e)(1) No county, municipality, or other political subdivision in this state shall require
10 any person or firm harvesting standing timber therein for delivery as pulpwood, logs,
11 poles, posts, or wood chips to any woodyard or processing plant located inside or outside
12 this state to provide any notice of or plan or security for such harvesting or hauling of
13 forest products except as provided by this Code section.

14 (2) No county, municipality, or other political subdivision in this state shall require any
15 person or firm harvesting standing timber therein for delivery as pulpwood, logs, poles,
16 posts, or wood chips to any woodyard or processing plant located inside or outside this
17 state to obtain any permit for such harvesting or hauling of forest products, including
18 without limitation any permit for any new driveway in connection with timber harvesting
19 operations; provided, however, that this paragraph shall not otherwise limit the authority
20 of a county or municipality to regulate roads or streets under its jurisdiction in accordance
21 with Title 32.

22 (3) The limitations on the regulatory authority of counties and municipalities provided
23 by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall apply only with respect to timber
24 harvesting operations which qualify as exempt forestry land management practices or
25 agricultural operations under Code Section 12-7-17, not incidental to development, on

1 tracts which are zoned or used for silvicultural or agricultural purposes and the hauling
2 of forest products in connection therewith."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.