

House Resolution 376

By: Representatives Sheldon of the 71st, Post 2, Westmoreland of the 86th, Keen of the 146th, Smith of the 110th, Mills of the 67th, Post 2, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to restrict amendments that increase
2 appropriations made by the general appropriations Act; to provide for a short title; to provide
3 for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

6 This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the "Taxpayers' Dividend Act."

SECTION 2.

8 Article III, Section IX, Paragraph IV of the Constitution is amended by adding at the end a
9 new subparagraph to read as follows:

10 "(e) A general appropriations Act passed during a regular session of the General
11 Assembly may not be amended following adjournment sine die of that session if such
12 amendment would increase the amount appropriated in such Act unless that amendment:

13 (1) Increases the appropriations to fund increased amounts for local school systems
14 solely for increases in student enrollment in such systems; or

15 (2) Is approved by two-thirds of the members of each house.

16 Funds otherwise available for appropriation through an amendment to a general
17 appropriations Act but not appropriated pursuant to subparagraph (1) or (2) of this
18 subparagraph shall be appropriated by the General Assembly during the immediately
19 succeeding regular legislative session following passage of that Act only for purposes of
20 reducing existing state debt, providing for a refund of state taxes, or both such purposes.
21 Appropriations for those purposes shall not be subject to the limitations of subparagraph
22 (1) or (2) of this subparagraph."

SECTION 3.

The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

"() YES Shall the Constitution be amended so as to restrict amendments that increase
() NO appropriations made by the general appropriations Act?"

All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall become a part of the Constitution of this state.