

House Bill 724

By: Representatives Sheldon of the 71st, Post 2, Floyd of the 132nd, Jones of the 38th, Porter of the 119th, Rice of the 64th 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 change certain provisions relating
3 to effect on local regulation of timber harvesting operations; to repeal conflicting laws; and
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

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

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

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

23 (3) The provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall not preclude any
24 requirement in any county or municipal tree and landscape ordinance or streamside buffer
25 ordinance.

1 (4) The limitations on the regulatory authority of counties and municipalities provided
2 by paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall apply only to timber harvesting
3 operations which qualify as exempt forestry land management practices or agricultural
4 operations under Code Section 12-7-17, not incidental to development, on tracts which
5 are zoned or used for silvicultural or agricultural purposes."

6 **SECTION 2.**

7 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.