

Senators Balfour of the 9th, Reed of the 35th and Zamarripa of the 36th offered the following substitute to SB 207:

**ADOPTED**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

To amend Code Section 12-6-24 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to providing notice of timber harvesting operations, so as to change certain provisions relating to effect on local regulation of timber harvesting operations; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

**SECTION 1.**

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

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

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

(3) The provisions of paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection shall not preclude counties, municipalities, or other political subdivisions from enacting and enforcing tree ordinances, landscape ordinances, or streamside buffer ordinances.

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

7 (B) The limitations on the regulatory authority of counties, municipalities, or other  
8 political subdivisions provided by paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of this subsection also  
9 shall apply to tracts which are unzoned."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
12 without such approval.

13 **SECTION 3.**

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