

Senate Bill 531

By: Senators Seabaugh of the 28th, Mullis of the 53rd and Meyer von Bremen of the 12th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relating to the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism, so
3 as to authorize the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism to acquire personal property
4 with no mandatory requirement that the department proceed through the Department of
5 Administrative Services; to provide for certain other procedures, conditions, qualifications,
6 limitations, and restrictions; to provide for certain exemptions from Chapter 13 of Title 50,
7 the "Georgia Administrative Procedure Act"; to provide an effective date; to repeal
8 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
12 general provisions relating to the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism, is amended
13 by striking Code Section 50-7-8, relating to additional duties and powers of the board, and
14 inserting in its place the following:

15 "50-7-8.

16 The board shall also have the following duties and powers:

17 (1) To conduct and make such surveys and investigations, to gather and compile such
18 information, and to make and prepare such reports, plans, and maps as may be necessary
19 or proper effectually to discharge the duties and exercise the powers of the board
20 enumerated in this article;

21 (2) To engage in and promote and encourage research designed to further new and more
22 extensive uses of the agricultural and natural resources or other products or resources of
23 the state and designed to develop new products and industrial processes;

24 (3) To study trends and developments in business, industry, and agriculture in the state
25 and analyze such trends and developments and the reasons therefor; to study costs and
26 other factors underlying the successful operation of businesses and industries in the state;

1 and to make recommendations regarding circumstances promoting or hampering
2 industrial or agricultural development;

3 (4) To collect, compile, and publish periodically a census of business and industry in the
4 state with the cooperation of other agencies, and to analyze and publish information
5 relating to current conditions of business, industry, and agriculture in the state;

6 (5) To compile, publish, and make available for distribution to interested persons the
7 results of any and all studies, surveys, and investigations; any and all information
8 gathered; and any and all reports made and plans and maps prepared;

9 (6) To coordinate any of its activities, efforts, or functions with those of any other agency
10 or agencies of the federal government, this state, other states, and local governments
11 having duties, powers, or functions similar to those of the board, and to cooperate,
12 counsel, and advise with such agencies;

13 (7) To cooperate, counsel, and advise with and to encourage and promote coordination
14 in the efforts of other organizations or groups within the state, public or private, engaged
15 in publicizing the advantages, attractions, or resources of the state;

16 (8) To cooperate, counsel, and advise with municipal, county, regional, or other local
17 planning agencies in the state for the purpose of promoting coordination between the state
18 and localities as to plans, policies, development of commerce, industry, or agriculture,
19 publicity, and other related activities and functions;

20 (9) To receive gifts, donations, or contributions from any person, firm, or corporation in
21 furtherance of the services, purposes, duties, responsibilities, or functions vested in the
22 board;

23 (10) To authorize the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism in accordance with
24 all applicable state laws to contract and make cooperative agreements, contracts, and
25 rental agreements with the United States government; any county, municipality, or local
26 government or any combination thereof; any public or private corporation or firm; any
27 persons whatsoever; or any public authority, agency, commission, or institution,
28 including agencies of state government for any of the services, purposes, duties,
29 responsibilities, or functions vested in the board; and

30 (11) To authorize the Department of Industry, Trade, and Tourism to participate with
31 public and private groups, organizations, and businesses in joint advertising and
32 promotional projects that promote the economic and tourist development of the State of
33 Georgia and make efficient use of state appropriated advertising and promotional funds.

34 In connection with such projects, the department may receive supplies, materials,
35 equipment, services, and other personal property and intangible benefits. It may also
36 issue licenses to others for the use of property in its custody or control, including
37 intellectual property and other personal property, but may not become a joint owner. In

1 acquisitions under this subsection, the department shall be exempt from the provisions
2 of Chapter 5 of Title 50. By way of illustration and not limitation, the department may
3 allow the use of its logo in advertising and on uniforms provided by cooperating entities
4 for wear by department employees. The board shall adopt and amend its policies,
5 regulations, rules, and procedures as necessary to implement this provision and shall not
6 be subject to Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative Procedure Act' in doing
7 so."

8 **SECTION 2.**

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

11 **SECTION 3.**

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