

House Bill 1277 (FLOOR SUBSTITUTE) (AM)

By: Representative Drenner of the 57th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relative to water resources, so as to prohibit the installation of
3 certain landscape irrigation systems without rain sensor shut-off switches; to provide for
4 punishment for violations; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 1 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 general provisions relative to water resources, is amended by inserting a new Code section
9 to read as follows:

10 "12-5-6.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'rain sensor shut-off switch' means an electric
12 device that detects and measures rainfall amounts and overrides the cycle of an irrigation
13 system so as to turn off such system when a predetermined amount of rain has fallen.

14 (b)(1) On and after January 1, 2005, no person shall install within the Metropolitan North
15 Georgia Water Planning District area created under Article 10 of this chapter any
16 landscape irrigation system equipped with an electronic controller that does not have a
17 rain sensor shut-off switch.

18 (2) Paragraph (1) of this subsection shall not apply to either landscape irrigation systems
19 installed on golf courses, or any system dependent upon a non-public water source.

20 (c)(1) Any person who installs a landscape irrigation system equipped with an electronic
21 controller in violation of this Code section shall be liable for a civil penalty not exceeding
22 \$100.00 per violation.

23 (2) The magistrate and municipal courts shall have jurisdiction in such cases."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.