04 LC 18 3548S

Senator Cagle of the 49th offered the following amendment to HB 1416:

ADOPTED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend Code Section 48-5-7.4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to bona fide conservation use property, so as to provide for additional circumstances where a covenant may be renewed or reentered where certain qualifying uses have been discontinued and the property's primary use is maintenance of a wildlife habitat; to provide for conditions and limitations; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 SECTION 1.

Code Section 48-5-7.4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to bona fide conservation use property, is amended by adding a new paragraph immediately following paragraph (2) of subsection (a), to be designated paragraph (2.1), to read as follows:

"(2.1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Code section to the contrary, in the case of property which otherwise meets the requirements for current use assessment and the qualifying use is pursuant to division (1)(E)(iii) of this subsection, when the owner seeks to renew the covenant or reenter a covenant subsequent to the termination of a previous covenant which met such requirements and the owner meets the qualifications under this Code section but the property is no longer being used for the qualified use for which the previous covenant was entered pursuant to division (1)(E)(iii) of this subsection, the property is not environmentally sensitive property within the meaning of paragraph (2) of this subsection, and the primary use of the property is maintenance of a wildlife habitat of not less than ten acres either by maintaining the property in its natural condition or under management, the county board of tax assessors shall be required to accept such use as a qualifying use for purposes of this Code section."

23 SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.