

House Bill 604

By: Representatives Geisinger of the 48th and Mosley of the 178th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 50-8-7.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general powers and duties of the Department of Community Affairs, so as to provide that the
3 department may adopt procedures by which regional development centers may charge a fee
4 for reviewing certain proposed actions by local governing authorities; to provide for a report;
5 to provide that such reviews shall be determined on the basis of whether the proposed action
6 is best for the region; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 50-8-7.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general powers
10 and duties of the Department of Community Affairs, is amended by striking in its entirety
11 paragraph (3) of subsection (d) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

12 "(3) The department may establish rules and procedures which require that local
13 governments submit for review any proposed action which would, based upon guidelines
14 which the department may establish, affect regionally important resources or further any
15 development of regional impact. Any such proposed action by a local government (other
16 than a regional development center) shall be submitted for review to the local government's
17 regional development center. The department may develop procedures to allow regional
18 development centers to charge an application fee reasonably related to the cost of such
19 review; provided, however, that such fee shall not exceed the actual cost of such review.
20 The department shall report any such procedures developed to the Speaker of the House
21 of Representatives, the House Majority Leader, the Chairperson of the House Committee
22 on State Planning and Community Affairs, the President of the Senate, the President Pro
23 Tempore of the Senate, the Senate Majority Leader, and the Chairperson of the Senate
24 State and Local Governmental Operations Committee. Any such proposed action by a
25 regional development center shall be submitted for review to the department. ~~Review~~
26 Reviews conducted by regional development centers shall be in accordance with rules and

1 procedures established by the department. The review shall result in a public finding by the
2 regional development center or the department, as the case may be, that the action will be
3 in the best interest of the ~~state~~ region or that it will not be in the best interest of the ~~state~~
4 region;"

5 **SECTION 2.**

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