

Senate Bill 144

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th, Schaefer of the 50th and Pearson of the 51st

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 50-8-150 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 creation of the State Advisory Committee on Rural Development, so as to create the Georgia
3 Rural Development Council; to provide for its duties and responsibilities; to provide for the
4 composition of the council; to provide for membership, officers, and terms of office; to
5 provide for bylaws; to provide for compensation; to provide for related matters; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 50-8-150 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation
10 of the State Advisory Committee on Rural Development, is amended by striking the Code
11 section and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 50-8-150 to read as follows:

12 "50-8-150.

13 (a) ~~Effective July 1, 1988, there~~ There is created a ~~State Advisory Committee on the~~
14 Georgia Rural Development Council. The ~~committee~~ council shall advise the
15 ~~commissioner of community affairs and Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor on matters
16 related to rural development and the preparation of a biennial rural economic development
17 plan and any other such matters requested by the ~~commissioner of community affairs or~~
18 ~~Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor. The ~~committee~~ council shall ~~consist of no less~~
19 ~~than 15 and no more than 21 members;~~ be composed of elected officials of municipalities,
20 elected officials of counties, members of the General Assembly, and other persons
21 knowledgeable about the community and economic development of rural areas appointed
22 by the Governor. In making appointments to the ~~committee~~ council, the Governor shall
23 ensure that members include representatives from throughout rural Georgia.

24 (b) Members of the ~~committee~~ council shall serve terms of office of two years and until
25 their successors are appointed by the ~~commissioner of community affairs~~ Governor and
26 qualified.

1 ~~(c) The committee at its initial meeting, which meeting shall be called by the~~
2 ~~commissioner of community affairs promptly after the appointment of its members, shall~~
3 ~~elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary from among its members. These~~ The
4 officers of the council shall consist of the Governor, who shall serve as the chairperson, a
5 vice chairperson, and a secretary. Except for the chairperson, the council shall elect
6 officers at its July meeting or, if there is no July meeting, at the next scheduled meeting.
7 The vice chairperson and secretary shall serve one-year terms, ~~after which time officers~~
8 ~~shall again be elected~~ until their replacements are selected and qualified.

9 (d) ~~The committee~~ council shall meet at least twice a year; however, the ~~commissioner of~~
10 ~~community affairs or the chairman of the committee~~ Governor may call additional special
11 meetings.

12 (e) Membership on the ~~committee~~ council shall not preclude the member from holding
13 other public office. Each member of the ~~committee~~ council shall receive the same per diem
14 expense allowance as that received by members of the General Assembly for each day a
15 ~~committee member~~ councilmember is in attendance at a meeting of the ~~committee~~ council,
16 plus reimbursement for actual transportation costs incurred while traveling by public carrier
17 or the mileage allowance authorized for certain state officials and employees for the use
18 of a personal automobile in connection with such attendance. The above shall be paid in
19 lieu of any other per diem, allowance, or remuneration.

20 (f) ~~The committee~~ council shall adopt, ~~and the Board of Community Affairs shall approve,~~
21 bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and conduct of its business."

22 SECTION 2.

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