

House Resolution 491

By: Representative Reese of the 98th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the development of renewable resources and recovered resources in conjunction
2 with a comprehensive state energy policy as an issue of vital importance; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, renewable portfolio standards require electric utilities to provide a specified
5 portion of their power generation from renewable resources such as biomass, solar, and wind,
6 and recovered resources, such as landfill gases and solid waste; and

7 WHEREAS, 16 states and the District of Columbia have mandated renewable portfolio
8 standards, and two other states have voluntary renewable portfolio standards; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia imports more than 98 percent of the fuels used to generate electricity
10 in the state, in the form of coal, natural gas, and nuclear fuel, and the price of natural gas and
11 coal has been rising at an alarming rate; and

12 WHEREAS, implementing a requirement for using renewable and recovered resources to
13 generate 12 percent of the electricity used by Georgians could save Georgia consumers an
14 estimated \$297,094,000.00 annually, and could earn Georgia's farmers and foresters an
15 estimated \$422 million annually for biomass used to generate the renewable energy; and

16 WHEREAS, increased use of renewable and recovered resources to generate electricity and
17 increased energy efficiency could reduce harmful emissions, particularly from existing coal
18 fueled generation plants; and

19 WHEREAS, increased use of biomass for the generation of electric power can be an
20 excellent tool for economic development, particularly in rural areas, where biomass is
21 available.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body recognize the vital importance of including increased use of
3 renewable resources, recovered resources, and energy efficiency as essential elements of a
4 state energy plan, and encourage the chairpersons of the House Committee on Public Utilities
5 and Telecommunications and the Senate Regulated Industries and Utilities Committee to
6 work with the Public Service Commission to address this vital issue.

7 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
8 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the chairpersons of the
9 House Committee on Public Utilities and Telecommunications and the Senate Regulated
10 Industries and Utilities Committee.