

Senate Resolution 503

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Williams of the 19th, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th and Pearson of the 51st

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Transportation to proceed with the initiation in 2005 of a pilot
2 performance based asset maintenance project for highway maintenance; and for other
3 purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia, like many states throughout the country today, is facing
5 tough challenges with transportation infrastructure; and

6 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation currently operates, maintains, and
7 improves the existing 19,853 miles of roads and highways in Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, vehicle miles traveled on our roadways in Georgia continue to increase, while
9 budgetary constraints make it more and more difficult to keep up with the overwhelming
10 needs of the traveling public; and

11 WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration has estimated that 20 percent of the
12 bridges in Georgia are either structurally obsolete or deficient; and

13 WHEREAS, the Governor, the General Assembly, and the Department of Transportation are
14 attempting to meet these challenges and are deserving of support in fully exploring all
15 avenues for innovation and improvement; and

16 WHEREAS, the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Economic Development governing
17 the Department of Transportation budget held a hearing in 2005 to hear testimony on "best
18 practices" in other states including piloting programs involving a "performance based asset
19 management" approach to transportation maintenance; and

20 WHEREAS, particularly the State of Florida's Department of Transportation has embarked
21 upon an asset management program for maintenance that has generated proven cost savings
22 of 17 percent without impacting the level of service; and

1 WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation has experienced problems with
2 hiring and retaining road maintenance employees, resulting in an impairment of necessary
3 preservation and maintenance in some areas of the state; and

4 WHEREAS, the Senate is committed to investigating new and innovative means to save tax
5 dollars while at the same time providing a high level of service to the citizens of our state;
6 and

7 WHEREAS, the commissioner of the Department of Transportation has during the past year
8 reviewed the feasibility of applying asset management concepts to highway maintenance in
9 Georgia.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
11 request the Department of Transportation to proceed with the initiation in 2005 of a pilot
12 performance based asset maintenance project for highway maintenance in a location or
13 district it deems most feasible for the benefit of the citizens of the State of Georgia.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
15 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the commissioner of the Department of
16 Transportation.