

Senate Resolution 675

By: Senators Seabaugh of the 28th, Balfour of the 9th and Johnson of the 1st

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to
 2 provide by general law for the creation of a Georgia Broadband Education Trust Fund from
 3 which funds shall be disbursed for the purposes of educating the general public on the
 4 benefits of broadband technology and improving utilization of broadband technology within
 5 Georgia; to provide for payments into the trust fund; to provide for the applicability of
 6 certain provisions of the Constitution; to provide for the submission of this amendment for
 7 ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI of the Constitution is amended by adding a new
 11 subparagraph immediately following subparagraph (m), to be designated subparagraph (n),
 12 to read as follows:

13 "(n) The General Assembly is authorized to provide by general law for the creation of
 14 a Georgia Broadband Education Trust Fund from which funds shall be disbursed for the
 15 purposes of educating the general public on the benefits of broadband technology and
 16 improving utilization of broadband technology within Georgia. The General Assembly is
 17 authorized to provide by general law for the dedication and deposit into the trust fund of
 18 revenues raised from any penalty assessed a local exchange company by the Georgia Public
 19 Service Commission or from any performance plan administered or approved by the
 20 Georgia Public Service Commission concerning any local exchange company for the
 21 purposes of the trust fund. The trust fund shall constitute a separate account in the state
 22 treasury. Trust fund proceeds shall be specifically identified by the Governor in the annual
 23 budget as a separate category entitled 'Georgia Broadband Education Proceeds.' The
 24 General Assembly may provide by law for the administration of the trust fund and may
 25 provide for the sunset or termination of the trust fund or any or all of its revenue sources.
 26 Moneys paid into the trust fund shall not be subject to the provisions of Article III, Section
 27 IX, Paragraph IV(c), relative to lapsing of funds, or of Article VII, Section III, Paragraph

1 II, relative to funds paid into the state treasury, except that moneys appropriated from the
2 trust fund and not committed shall lapse back to such trust fund."

3 **SECTION 2.**

4 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as
5 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution.

6 The ballot submitting the above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon
7 the following:

8 "() YES Shall the Constitution be amended so as to authorize the General
Assembly to provide by general law for the creation of a Georgia
9 () NO Broadband Education Trust Fund, from which funds shall be
disbursed for the purposes of educating the public on the benefits of
broadband technology and improving utilization of broadband
technology within Georgia?"

10 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."
11 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If
12 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in such Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall
13 become a part of the Constitution of this state and shall take effect as provided in Article X,
14 Section I, Paragraph VI of the Constitution.