

House Resolution 1286

By: Representatives Brown of the 69th, McCall of the 30th, Roberts of the 154th, Smyre of the 132nd, Epps of the 128th, Buckner of the 130th, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging local governments in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District to
2 require retrofitting of inefficient plumbing fixtures used prior to 1993 for residential and
3 commercial buildings sold or exchanged on or after January 1, 2007; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, population within the 16 county North Georgia Metropolitan Water Planning
5 District is projected to grow from 4 million people to 8 million by 2030. Water plans that
6 the district approved in 2003 were prepared using this population projection; and

7 WHEREAS, according to these plans, the district cannot meet the 2030 water demands
8 without aggressive water conservation; and

9 WHEREAS, the district water plans project an 11 percent reduction in water demand due to
10 conservation and list ten specific water conservation measures as being the most promising.
11 Retrofitting of inefficient plumbing fixtures used prior to 1993 was included in the top three
12 most effective measures; and

13 WHEREAS, over 70 percent or more than 1 million homes in the district were built before
14 1992. These older homes use, on average, 50 percent more water than homes built in
15 accordance with the current plumbing code; and

16 WHEREAS, in 1990, Georgia General Assembly member (now United States Senator)
17 Johnny Isakson successfully sponsored legislation that established low-flow plumbing
18 requirements for new residential and commercial buildings constructed in this state; and

19 WHEREAS, it would cost about \$650.00 for the average house to be retrofitted, which would
20 save 50,000 gallons per year. Savings from the reduced water use would pay for retrofit
21 costs within two or three years, and the homeowner would save money in the long run; and

1 WHEREAS, in 2030, water savings from such replacement of inefficient plumbing fixtures
2 would be 29 million gallons per day. With retrofit-on-resale, the savings would be 71
3 million gallons per day, resulting in an additional 42 million gallons per day saved; and

4 WHEREAS, the district recently voted to remove a retrofit-on-resale water conservation
5 measure from the water plans. Instead, the district will require local water providers to
6 implement rebate programs targeting replacement of older plumbing fixtures. The local
7 water providers do not have to begin these programs until 2010, and there are no further
8 measurable goals or deadlines to replace such older fixtures.

9 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
10 the members of this body urge local governments in the Metropolitan North Georgia Water
11 Planning District to require retrofitting of inefficient plumbing fixtures used prior to 1993
12 for residential and commercial buildings sold or exchanged on or after January 1, 2007.

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
14 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to each local government in
15 the Metropolitan North Georgia Water Planning District.