

House Resolution 1695

By: Representatives Drenner of the 86th, Henson of the 87th, Gardner of the 57th, Watson of the 91st, Benfield of the 85th, and others

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Commending DeKalb County, its commissioners, and citizens for adopting and
2 implementing a 75 foot stream buffer protection as part of the environmental protection
3 section of DeKalb County's Land Development Ordinance; and for other purposes.
- 4 WHEREAS, the vote by the DeKalb County Commissioners for this most far reaching of all
5 environmental legislation passed in years was unanimous; and
- 6 WHEREAS, all citizens need to be concerned about stream buffers because stream banks
7 provide important functions to the rivers and communities; and
- 8 WHEREAS, stream buffers provide many benefits such as: slowing the velocity of
9 storm-water runoff, which helps to prevent downstream flooding; assimilating polluted
10 storm-water runoff from paved streets, parking lots, restaurants, and shopping centers;
11 filtering other types of human and animal waste running off hard surfaces; filtering sediment
12 and pollution from runoff before it reaches our streams; and providing crucial habitat for
13 plant life, amphibians, and other wildlife; and
- 14 WHEREAS, it is thought by many scientists that a stream buffer should be a minimum of 75
15 feet to do a satisfactory job of removing pollutants before they reach a stream; and
- 16 WHEREAS, the DeKalb County Commissioners in their wisdom have recognized and
17 implemented the need for this minimum buffer while elsewhere in Georgia the minimum
18 buffer remains only narrow 25 or 50 feet strips of land; and
- 19 WHEREAS, the action taken in DeKalb County to protect this state's streams will help to
20 increase water quality for everyone.

1 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
2 the members of this body commend DeKalb County, its commissioners, and citizens for
3 adopting and implementing a 75 foot stream buffer to protect Georgia's streams.

4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
5 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Commissioners of
6 DeKalb County.