

Senate Resolution 1194

By: Senator Balfour of the 9th

A RESOLUTION

1 Applauding the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal
2 Association and urging the Council of Local Governments to address those issues of conflict
3 between cities and counties such as service delivery, local government revenues, and land
4 use; and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, cities and counties are important partners to the State of Georgia in providing
6 a high quality of life for residents across the state; and

7 WHEREAS, cities provide centers of commerce, a sense of place, a variety of municipal
8 services, and government closest to the people; and

9 WHEREAS, county governments within Georgia have historically and traditionally provided
10 constitutionally mandated services and have served as administrative units for the provision
11 of state services; and

12 WHEREAS, the roles of cities and counties have evolved over the years as the State of
13 Georgia and local governments have struggled to accommodate Georgia's swelling
14 population; and

15 WHEREAS, duplication of services, competition for revenue, and confusion over the proper
16 yet distinct roles of cities and counties have been caused by actions of the General Assembly;
17 and

18 WHEREAS, vibrant, prosperous, and responsive local governments working cooperatively
19 with one another and the state are of vital importance to the future health and prosperity of
20 the State of Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal
22 Association, acting through their respective Board of Managers and Board of Directors, have

1 created the Council of Local Governments as a forum for the elected officials participating
2 in each association to discuss areas of agreement and areas of disagreement; and

3 WHEREAS, a limited number of issues straining city-county relations surface each year in
4 the legislature, prompted by attempts at state-wide solutions to local problems.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
6 applaud the Association County Commissioners of Georgia and the Georgia Municipal
7 Association for their foresight in creating the Council of Local Governments as a venue to
8 openly and candidly address areas of conflict but to also identify areas where cities and
9 counties can work together on a common and focused agenda.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Senate urges the Council of Local Governments to
11 address several of the top issues that create conflict between cities and counties, including
12 service delivery, local government revenues, and land use, and to make any
13 recommendations for legislative or administrative action.

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 Association County Commissioners,
16 the Georgia Municipal Association, and the Council of Local Governments.