

House Resolution 1919

By: Representatives Reese of the 98th, Drenner of the 86th, Thomas of the 100th, and Geisinger of the 48th

A RESOLUTION

1 Expressing support for the development of biomass renewable energy sources; urging
2 electric utilities to promote the use of renewable biomass energy; urging the Georgia Public
3 Service Commission to encourage the state's utilities to add biomass resources to Georgia's
4 fuel and generating assets and to encourage the development of a renewable fuels industry
5 in Georgia; and for other purposes.

6 WHEREAS, virtually all new power plants built in Georgia in the last 15 years are fueled by
7 natural gas, which is and will continue to be in short supply in Georgia and which has
8 exposed electricity consumers to high and volatile electricity prices; and

9 WHEREAS, Georgia is an extremely biomass rich state with significantly underutilized
10 agriculture and forestry resources; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia imports the vast majority of its fuels from outside the state, spending
12 a great deal of money outside of Georgia to meet our population's energy needs; and

13 WHEREAS, biomass is considered by the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to be a
14 carbon neutral energy source and will add no greenhouse or other harmful emissions to
15 Georgia's environment, helping to forge a cleaner and healthier state in which our citizens
16 can live and prosper; and

17 WHEREAS, Georgia's biomass resources can and should be utilized to provide
18 environmentally friendly, affordable, dependable, sustainable, and stable priced power for
19 the state's ratepayers; and

20 WHEREAS, utilizing these resources will create greater fuel diversity and fuel competition
21 in Georgia and will significantly help create jobs in the state's rural farm and forestry
22 communities, thus benefiting Georgia's economy; and

1 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the 2005 Energy Bill that provides for a
2 number of incentives encouraging the development of clean, renewable alternative energy
3 resources, including biomass resources, to reduce dependence on fossil fuels and energy
4 supplies from unstable parts of the world.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
6 the members of this body support the development of biomass renewable energy facilities
7 in the state and urge electric utilities in Georgia to promote the use of renewable biomass
8 energy in the state and to include renewable biomass energy as a meaningful percentage of
9 the state's generation to serve electricity customers.

10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Georgia Public Service Commission
11 to take appropriate measures to encourage Georgia utilities to appropriately add biomass
12 resources to Georgia's fuel and generating assets and to encourage the development of a
13 renewable fuels industry in Georgia.

14 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
15 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to Georgia electric utilities and
16 to each member of the Georgia Public Service Commission.