

House Bill 214

By: Representatives Barnard of the 166<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 70<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Parsons of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Lane of the 158<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 7 of Chapter 3 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to the Jekyll Island— State Park Authority, so as to provide for a renewal  
3 of the property lease to the authority; to extend the existence of the authority consistent with  
4 such lease renewal; to provide for legislative oversight of the authority; to provide for  
5 legislative intent; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 The Georgia General Assembly finds that Jekyll Island is home to some of the state's most  
10 treasured natural and cultural resources and it is the expressed intent of this body to ensure  
11 the preservation of these resources for the enjoyment of all Georgians now and for future  
12 generations to come. For this reason, the state shall continue its commitment to the  
13 preservation of 65 percent of the land area of the island which shall remain undeveloped.  
14 Jekyll Island proudly exhibits one of Georgia's largest stretches of undeveloped beach front  
15 property and it is the expressed intent of this body that the undeveloped beaches of Jekyll  
16 Island be preserved in their natural beauty without further encumbrances or commercial  
17 growth. Commercial improvement is intended to better existing development while retaining  
18 public access to the beaches for the pleasure of all of Georgia's citizens. The General  
19 Assembly further finds that the deteriorating conditions of public and commercial facilities  
20 is of great interest to the legislature and to the public and that by significantly extending the  
21 existing lease authority for the island's property, the state will thereby help to secure and  
22 encourage future investments and provide a basis for long-term revitalization of the island.  
23 Jekyll Island is recognized by this body as "Georgia's Jewel," and its simple beauties are  
24 hereby preserved so that they may continue to shine for the common citizens of Georgia.



1 from the membership of the committee, and the vice chairperson of the committee shall be  
 2 appointed by the Speaker of the House from the membership of the committee during  
 3 odd-numbered years. The chairperson of the committee shall be appointed by the Speaker  
 4 of the House from the membership of the committee, and the vice chairperson of the  
 5 committee shall be appointed by the Senate Committee on Assignments from the  
 6 membership of the committee during even-numbered years. The chairperson and vice  
 7 chairperson shall serve terms of one year beginning January 1, 2007. Vacancies in an  
 8 appointed member's position or in the offices of chairperson or vice chairperson of the  
 9 committee shall be filled for the unexpired term in the same manner as the original  
 10 appointment. The committee shall advise the General Assembly regarding the authority's  
 11 compliance with the provisions required by this part. The committee shall meet upon the  
 12 call of the chairperson."

13 **SECTION 4.**

14 Said part is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 12-3-241, relating  
 15 to the lease to the authority, as follows:

16 "(a) To the authority is granted, for and on the part of the State of Georgia, a lease for a  
 17 term of 99 years, beginning on February 13, 1950, to which term shall be automatically  
 18 extended an additional 99 years upon the ending of the initial term. The lease shall be for  
 19 all of that island of the State of Georgia, County of Glynn, being known as Jekyll Island  
 20 and the marshes and marsh islands adjacent and adjoining the same owned by the State of  
 21 Georgia; being that island of 11,000 acres, more or less, lying east of the mainland coast  
 22 of Georgia, County of Glynn, bounded on its easterly shore by the Atlantic Ocean; bounded  
 23 upon its northerly shore by Brunswick River, bounded on its westerly shore by Brunswick  
 24 River, Jekyll Creek, Jekyll River, and Jekyll Sound; and bounded on its southerly shore by  
 25 Jekyll Sound, together with the adjacent and adjoining marshes and marsh islands; which  
 26 properties may also be described as all of the lands acquired by the State of Georgia in a  
 27 certain condemnation proceeding, *State of Georgia vs. Jekyll Island Club, Inc., et al.*, filed  
 28 June 6, 1947, in Glynn County Superior Court; which properties may also be described in  
 29 all conveyances, conveying any and all parts of Jekyll Island and the adjacent and adjoining  
 30 marshes and marsh islands to the State of Georgia, recorded upon the official deed books  
 31 of Glynn County as of February 13, 1950, all and each one of said conveyances being, by  
 32 reference, expressly incorporated into this Code section and made in their entireties; a part  
 33 hereof."

1 **SECTION 5.**

2 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
3 without such approval.

4 **SECTION 6.**

5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.