

Senate Bill 317

By: Senator Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To authorize Columbia County to exercise all redevelopment and other powers under Article
2 IX, Section II, Paragraph VII(b) of the Constitution and Chapter 44 of Title 36 of the
3 O.C.G.A., the "Redevelopment Powers Law," as amended; to provide for a referendum; to
4 provide effective dates; to provide for automatic repeal under certain circumstances; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Columbia County shall be and is authorized to exercise all redevelopment and other powers
9 under Chapter 44 of Title 36 of the O.C.G.A., the "Redevelopment Powers Law," as
10 amended. The intention of this Act is to authorize Columbia County to undertake and carry
11 out community redevelopment, to create tax allocation districts, to issue tax allocation bonds,
12 and to incur other obligations within the meaning of and as fully permitted under the
13 provisions of Article IX, Section II, Paragraph VII(b) of the Constitution of the State of
14 Georgia of 1983, as amended, and to authorize Columbia County to exercise redevelopment
15 powers as fully as the "Redevelopment Powers Law" may now or hereafter permit and not
16 to limit any redevelopment powers permitted under the "Redevelopment Powers Law."

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election
19 superintendent of Columbia County shall call and conduct an election as provided in this
20 section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of Columbia County for
21 approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on a practicable
22 date in 2007 authorized under O.C.G.A. Section 21-2-540 and shall issue the call and
23 conduct that election as provided by general law. The election superintendent shall cause the
24 date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately

preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Columbia County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

"() YES Shall the Act be approved which authorizes Columbia County to exercise redevelopment powers under the 'Redevelopment Powers Law,' as it may () NO be amended from time to time?"

All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for approval of the Act, then Section 1 of this Act shall become of full force and effect immediately. If Section 1 of this Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective and this Act shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following that election date. The expense of such election shall be borne by Columbia County. It shall be the election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

SECTION 3.

Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 4.

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