

Senate Bill 466

By: Senators Bulloch of the 11th, Shafer of the 48th, Tolleson of the 20th, Chance of the 16th  
and Cowsert of the 46th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to water  
2 resources, so as to exempt permanent facility car washes from outdoor watering restrictions  
3 under certain conditions; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to water resources,  
8 is amended in subsection (l) of Code Section 12-5-31, relating to permits for withdrawal,  
9 diversion, or impoundment of surface waters generally and for farm uses and monitoring,  
10 recording, and reporting water withdrawals, by deleting "and" at the end of paragraph (4) and  
11 adding a new paragraph to read as follows:

12 "(4.1) The use of surface water by any permanent facility car wash shall be deemed not  
13 to be outdoor water use for purposes of any outdoor watering restrictions if the facility:

14 (A) Is connected to a sanitary sewer system of a political subdivision or local  
15 government authority or recycles used wash water; and

16 (B) Is certified by the division as meeting or exceeding applicable best management  
17 practices for car washing facilities, which the Board of Natural Resources shall provide  
18 by rules and regulations not later than October 1, 2008. Such certification shall expire  
19 annually and may be issued or renewed upon compliance with such best management  
20 practices and payment of a \$50.00 fee to the division. The provisions of this  
21 subparagraph shall apply on and after the effective date of such board rules and  
22 regulations; and"

23 **SECTION 2.**

1 Said chapter is further amended in Code Section 12-5-102, relating to emergency orders,  
2 hearing, and appeal, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

3 "(e) The use of ground water by any permanent facility car wash shall be deemed not to  
4 be outdoor water use for purposes of any outdoor watering restrictions if the facility:

5 (1) Is connected to a sanitary sewer system of a political subdivision or local government  
6 authority or recycles used wash water; and

7 (2) Is certified by the division as meeting or exceeding applicable best management  
8 practices for car washing facilities, which the Board of Natural Resources shall provide  
9 by rules and regulations not later than October 1, 2008. Such certification shall expire  
10 annually and may be issued or renewed upon compliance with such best management  
11 practices and payment of a \$50.00 fee to the division. The provisions of this paragraph  
12 shall apply on and after the effective date of such board rules and regulations."

13 **SECTION 3.**

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

16 **SECTION 4.**

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