

Senate Bill 300

By: Senators Rogers of the 21st and Pearson of the 51st

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 Department of Audits and Accounts, so as to provide for the creation of and maintenance by  
3 the department of a website which provides public access to certain state expenditure  
4 information; to provide for a short title; to provide for procedures, conditions, and  
5 limitations; to provide for powers, duties, and authority of the Department of Audits and  
6 Accounts and the Department of Revenue; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department  
11 of Audits and Accounts, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "50-6-32.

13 (a) This Code section shall be known and may be cited as the 'Transparency in  
14 Government Act.'

15 (b) As used in this Code section, the term:

16 (1) 'Expenditure of state funds' means the expenditure of all appropriated or  
17 nonappropriated funds by a state entity from the state treasury in forms including, but not  
18 limited to:

19 (A) Grants;

20 (B) Contracts;

21 (C) Subcontracts;

22 (D) Tax refunds, rebates, or credits;

23 (E) Payments made through economic and incentive programs operated by the  
24 Department of Economic Development, the Department of Labor, the Department of  
25 Community Affairs, the Department of Agriculture, and the Georgia Lottery  
26 Corporation; and

1 (F) Expenditures from the Revenue Shortfall Reserve.

2 (2) 'Expenditure of state funds' shall not mean the transfer of funds between two state  
3 agencies or payments of state or federal assistance to an individual.

4 (3) 'Searchable website' means a website that allows the public to search and aggregate  
5 information identified in subsection (c) of this Code section.

6 (c) No later than January 1, 2010, the department shall develop and operate a single,  
7 searchable website accessible at no cost by the public, that provides information for each  
8 expenditure of state funds including, but not limited to:

9 (1) The name and principal location or residence of the entity or recipients of the funds;

10 (2) The amount of state funds expended;

11 (3) The type of transaction;

12 (4) The funding or expending agency;

13 (5) The budget program source;

14 (6) A descriptive purpose of the funding action or expenditure; and

15 (7) Any other relevant information specified by the Department of Audits and Accounts.

16 (d) The searchable website provided for in this Code section shall include data for the  
17 2010-2011 fiscal year as it becomes available and each fiscal year thereafter. Such data  
18 shall be available on the searchable website no later than 30 days after the last day of the  
19 preceding fiscal year.

20 (e) All agencies of state government shall provide to the Department of Audits and  
21 Accounts such information as is necessary to accomplish the purposes of this Code section.

22 (f) Nothing in this Code section shall require the disclosure of information which is  
23 considered confidential by state or federal law."

24 **SECTION 2.**

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