

Senate Bill 463

By: Senators Pearson of the 51st, Tolleson of the 20th, Murphy of the 27th, Schaefer of the 50th and Rogers of the 21st

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Chapter 3 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county
2 boards of health, so as to provide certain conditions for use of residential gray water; to
3 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

5 **SECTION 1.**

6 Chapter 3 of Title 31 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county boards
7 of health, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

8 "31-3-5.2.

9 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'gray water' means waste water discharged from
10 residential lavatories, bathtubs, showers, clothes washers, and laundry trays.

11 (b) Private residential direct reuse of gray water shall be lawful if the following conditions
12 are met:

13 (1) Gray water originating from the residence shall be used and contained within the
14 property boundary for household gardening, composting, lawn watering, or landscape
15 irrigation;

16 (2) Gray water shall not be used for irrigation of food plants;

17 (3) The gray water shall not contain hazardous chemicals derived from activities such
18 as cleaning car parts, washing greasy or oily rags, or disposing of waste solutions from
19 home photo labs or similar hobbyist or home occupational activities;

20 (4) The application of gray water shall be managed to minimize standing water on the
21 surface;

22 (5) The application of gray water shall be outside of a floodway;

23 (6) The gray water shall not contain water used to wash diapers or similarly soiled or
24 infectious garments unless the gray water is disinfected before irrigation; and

25 (7) The gray water shall be applied only by hand watering using garden watering cans
26 or similar hand-held containers.

- 1 (c) Any violation of subsection (b) of this Code section shall be a misdemeanor.
2 (d) County boards of health shall adopt the provisions of subsection (b) of this Code
3 section by regulation."

4 **SECTION 2.**

- 5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.