

Senate Resolution 295

By: Senators Stoner of the 6th, Mullis of the 53rd, Jackson of the 2nd and Staton of the 18th

A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting the implementation of a Strategic Deployment-Distribution Corridor Network
2 by the Georgia Ports Authority and the Georgia Departments of Transportation, Economic
3 Development, and Agriculture with assistance from the Georgia Congressional delegation;
4 and for other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is home to a complex joint logistics network of defense
6 facilities critical to expeditionary warfare and global force projection and includes Fort
7 Stewart, the largest Department of Defense complex east of the Mississippi River and home
8 to the Third Infantry Division and Hunter Army Air Field; Warner Robins Air Force Base,
9 home to United States Air Force strategic mobility aircraft; Fort Benning's power projection
10 support platform; Fort MacPherson, home to U.S. Forces Command; USMC Logistics
11 Command Albany; Moody Air Force Base; and the strategic seaports of Savannah and
12 Brunswick; and

13 WHEREAS, the Port of Savannah is the fourth largest and fastest growing container port in
14 the United States with the ability to accommodate both commercial and military cargo; and

15 WHEREAS, the ports of Savannah and Brunswick are linked to other strategic seaports by
16 distribution corridors which are composed of interstate highways to Macon and Atlanta, the
17 Heartland Rail Corridor to Chicago and the Midwest, and rail and interstate highways to the
18 Southwest and Southern California; and

19 WHEREAS, national intercity high speed rail corridors would enhance rapid mobility,
20 intercity passenger movement, and freight mobility while alleviating regional congestion,
21 improving air quality, reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions, and improving
22 the movement of goods; and

23 WHEREAS, the establishment of a state-wide rail corridor in Georgia would attract
24 warehouse and distribution facilities to Georgia, increasing jobs in transportation,
25 distribution, and manufacturing; and

26 WHEREAS, the addition of intelligent transportation systems and related information
27 technology can further enhance current road and rail corridors in terms of improving capacity
28 and efficiency while decreasing congestion and can potentially generate additional revenue
29 sources to finance infrastructure improvements; and

30 WHEREAS, by expanding international, trade-driven economic development, Georgia
31 counties situated along strategic deployment-distribution corridors will thrive from economic
32 stimulus, and the need for additional trained workers will increase the enrollment in
33 Georgia's institutions of secondary education and higher learning; and

34 WHEREAS, the Strategic Mobility 21 program funded by the U.S. Department of Defense,
35 in collaboration with Georgia Southern University and other academic institutions, is
36 facilitating the study and implementation of a network of rapid deployment-distribution
37 corridors with the development of a Southeast Regional Agile Supply Network Model.

38 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
39 request collaboration between the Georgia Ports Authority and the Georgia Departments of
40 Transportation, Economic Development, and Agriculture in the development and
41 implementation of Strategic Deployment-Distribution Corridors.

42 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, to further the ongoing efforts of Strategic Mobility 21,
43 the Georgia Ports Authority and the Georgia Department of Transportation are encouraged
44 to designate a network of Strategic Deployment-Distribution Corridors, incorporate this
45 network in its state transportation plan, and seek assistance for implementing this network
46 through federal funding.

47 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Georgia Department of Economic Development and
48 the Department of Agriculture are also encouraged to include the network of Strategic
49 Deployment-Distribution Corridors in their promotional materials for the State of Georgia.

50 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Georgia Congressional delegation is requested to
51 work to identify and designate Georgia transportation projects part of the Strategic
52 Deployment-Distribution Corridors as candidates for federal funds.

53 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
54 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Georgia Ports Authority, the Georgia
55 Departments of Transportation, Economic Development, and Agriculture, and members of
56 the Georgia Congressional delegation.