

## Senate Resolution 12

By: Senators Pearson of the 51st, Rogers of the 21st, Williams of the 19th, Tolleson of the 20th, Mullis of the 53rd and others

**ADOPTED SENATE**

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to  
 2 provide by general law for the payment of rewards for the development and conservation of  
 3 various energy resources in this state; to provide for the submission of this amendment for  
 4 ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 The Constitution of Georgia is amended in Article III, Section VI, Paragraph VI by revising  
 8 subparagraph (b) as follows:

9 "(b)(1) All laws heretofore adopted under Article III, Section VIII, Paragraph XII of the  
 10 Constitution of 1976 in force and effect on June 30, 1983, shall continue in force and  
 11 effect and may be amended if such amendments are consistent with the authority granted  
 12 to the General Assembly by such provisions of said Constitution; provided, however, that  
 13 the provisions of subparagraph (3) of said provision of the Constitution of 1976 shall be  
 14 superseded by subparagraph (2) of this subparagraph.

15 (2)(A) The General Assembly may provide by general law for the payment of  
 16 rewards to the first person or firm or combination thereof which puts down and brings  
 17 in the first commercial oil well on land in this state, to the first person or firm or  
 18 combination thereof which puts down and brings in the first commercial oil well  
 19 off-shore in waters of the Atlantic Ocean within the jurisdiction of this state, to the first  
 20 person or firm or combination thereof which puts down and brings in the first  
 21 commercial natural gas well on land in this state, and to the first person or firm or  
 22 combination thereof which puts down and brings in the first commercial natural gas  
 23 well off-shore in waters of the Atlantic Ocean within the jurisdiction of this state. The  
 24 amount of any such rewards, the minimal amounts of daily production required to  
 25 qualify as commercial wells, and the authority for determining whether such wells are  
 26 producing such minimal amounts of daily production shall be as established by general  
 27 law. Such law shall provide for the distribution of the amount of the reward between

28 the persons or firms which drill or cause to be drilled said wells and the contractors who  
 29 furnish such equipment, among such workers and employees actually engaged in the  
 30 job, and to the mineral, gas, or property owners where the wells are drilled. Said law  
 31 shall provide for the method of payments by the Governor.

32 (B) The General Assembly may provide by general law for the payment of a reward  
 33 to a person or firm who develops in this state a method, system, or device for  
 34 substantial and commercially viable energy production utilizing sources other than  
 35 fossil fuels to produce such energy. The General Assembly may also provide by  
 36 general law for the payment of a reward to a person or firm who develops in this state  
 37 a method, system, or device for substantial and commercially viable energy  
 38 conservation to reduce dependence on fossil fuels as a source of energy. The amount  
 39 of any such rewards, the minimal amounts of energy production or conservation  
 40 required to qualify as substantial, and the authority for determining whether the  
 41 requirements for such an award have been met shall be as established by general law.  
 42 Such law shall provide for the distribution of the amount of the reward between persons  
 43 or firms who cause such method, system, or device to be developed and among the  
 44 workers and employees actually engaged in the job. Such law shall provide for the  
 45 method of payments by the Governor."

46

## SECTION 2.

47 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
 48 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
 49 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

50 "( ) YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the General  
 51 Assembly to provide by general law for the payment of rewards for the  
 52 ( ) NO development and conservation of various energy resources in this state?"

53 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."  
 54 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
 55 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
 56 become a part of the Constitution of this state.