

House Bill 796 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Sellier of the 136th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to create the Byron Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, approved
2 April 4, 1997 (Ga. L. 1997, p. 3921), so as to change the composition of the authority; to
3 change the manner of appointment; to provide for terms; to provide for staff; to provide for
4 meetings; to provide for duties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act to create the Byron Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority, approved April 4,
9 1997 (Ga. L. 1997, p. 3921), is amended by revising Section 2 as follows:

10 "Section 2.

11 (a) The Byron Convention and Visitors Bureau Authority shall consist of ten members,
12 nine of which shall be regular members and one of which shall be an ex officio member.
13 Seven of the nine regular members shall be appointed in accordance with O.C.G.A. Code
14 Section 36-42-4 and 36-42-7. The current members of the Byron Downtown Development
15 Authority, or their successors, shall become seven of the initial nine regular board members
16 hereunder. One regular member shall be a member of the Byron Development Authority,
17 selected by that body to serve. One regular member shall be a member of the Byron
18 Redevelopment Authority, selected by that body to serve. The ex officio member shall be
19 the President of the Byron Historical Society. The terms of office of each member shall
20 coincide with his or her term of office as a member of the Byron Downtown Development
21 Authority, Byron Development Authority, Byron Redevelopment Authority, or Byron
22 Historical Society.

23 (b) All the members of the authority shall serve without compensation; provided, however,
24 that the mayor and board of aldermen may reimburse authority members for reasonable
25 expenses incurred in connection with their service as authority members in accordance with
26 Georgia Law."

27 **SECTION 2.**

28 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 3 as follows:

29 "Section 3

30 The authority shall elect a chairperson, vice chairperson, and secretary-treasurer from
31 among the seven members appointed pursuant to Code Sections 36-42-4 and 36-42-7 of
32 the O.C.G.A. Officers shall be elected on a calendar year basis but may be reelected for
33 succeeding terms. The chairperson shall be entitled to vote on all issues."

34 **SECTION 3.**

35 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 4 as follows:

36 "Section 4

37 The authority shall have the power to employ an executive director and such other
38 employees as may be necessary in the operation of the authority's activities, to whom, in
39 turn, shall be delegated the authority and responsibility necessary to properly administer
40 the business of the authority and its agencies as created in this Act or created at a later date,
41 within policies set by the authority and subject to its review. The executive director shall
42 have full charge of the offices and of all employees of the authority, and the executive
43 director shall have authority to recommend to the authority the hiring and termination of
44 employees. The authority shall have authority to establish salaries and compensation for
45 said executive director and employees."

46 **SECTION 4.**

47 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 5 as follows:

48 "(a) The authority shall meet at such times as may be necessary to transact the business
49 coming before it but not less often than required by the bylaws of the Byron Downtown
50 Development Authority or any other organization whose function is carried out by the
51 board as a whole or by the seven members appointed pursuant to Code Sections 36-42-4
52 and 36-42-7 of the O.C.G.A. Meetings of the authority shall be open to the public in
53 accordance with the laws of this state. Written minutes of all meetings shall be kept; and,
54 within ten days of every meeting, a copy of the minutes shall be furnished to the mayor and
55 Board of Aldermen of the City of Byron. Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with
56 'Robert's Rules of Order.'

57 (b) At least five regular members of the authority shall constitute a quorum for the
58 transaction of any business, including election of officers except when the board is acting
59 pursuant to the bylaws of the Byron Downtown Development Authority or of any other
60 organization whose function is carried out by the board as a whole or by the seven
61 members appointed pursuant to O.C.G.A. Code Sections 36-42-4 and 36-42-7, in which

62 case a quorum shall be determined in accordance with the laws and bylaws applicable to
63 the Byron Downtown Development authority or of such other organization. The majority
64 of all votes cast shall determine all questions and elections."

65 **SECTION 5.**

66 Said Act is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Section 6 as follows:

67 "(a) The duties of the authority shall be to:

68 (1) Promote tourism, trade, and conventions for the City of Byron;

69 (2) Study, investigate, and develop plans for improving tourism in the City of Byron and
70 the area and doing such things as tend to bring visitors and conventions into the city;

71 (3) Advise and recommend to the mayor and board of aldermen and departments of the
72 city for the development of tourism in the city;

73 (4) Otherwise promote public interest in the general improvement of tourism in the city;

74 and

75 (5) Perform such other duties as may be delegated to it by the Board of Aldermen of the
76 City of Byron, the Downtown Development Authorities Law, O.C.G.A Code Section
77 36-42-1 et seq., or the bylaws of any such organization whose function is carried out
78 either by the board as a whole or by some portion thereof."

79 **SECTION 6.**

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