

The Senate Transportation Committee offered the following substitute to SB 22:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to highways, bridges,
2 and ferries, so as to establish the Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human
3 Services Transportation to encourage efficient transportation service delivery in the rural
4 areas of the state and to coordinate human service transportation services in both the rural
5 and urban areas of the state; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for the
6 membership, meetings, and expenses of such committee; to provide for advisory committees;
7 to provide for the duties of the committee; to provide for an annual report; to provide for
8 related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
9 purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

12 Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to highways, bridges, and ferries,
13 is amended by adding a new chapter to read as follows:

14 style="text-align:center">"CHAPTER 12

15 32-12-1.

16 The General Assembly finds that there exist a number of programs designed to provide
17 rural and human services transportation and that frequently these services are provided over
18 large geographic areas through various funding sources which are frequently targeted to
19 narrowly defined client bases. The sheer number of such programs lends itself to a need
20 for coordination among the programs and agencies which implement them so as to best
21 assist economies in purchasing equipment and operating these many programs, to better
22 serve the taxpayers of the state in ensuring the most cost-effective delivery of these
23 services, and to best serve the clients utilizing the transportation services provided through
24 these programs.

25 32-12-2.

26 There is hereby created the Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human
27 Services Transportation of the Governor's Development Council.

28 32-12-3.

29 The Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services Transportation and
30 its advisory subcommittees shall meet not less often than quarterly. Administrative
31 expenses of the committee shall be borne by the Governor's Development Council. The
32 members of the committee shall receive no extra compensation or reimbursement of
33 expenses from the state for their services as members of the committee.

34 32-12-4.

35 The Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services Transportation shall
36 establish the State Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human Services Transportation
37 which shall consist of the State School Superintendent and the commissioners of the
38 Department of Transportation, Department of Human Services, Department of Behavioral
39 Health and Developmental Disabilities, Department of Community Health, Department of
40 Labor, the Governor's Development Council, and the Department of Community Affairs
41 or their respective designees. The commissioner of transportation or his or her designee
42 shall serve as chairperson of the State Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human
43 Services Transportation. The Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human
44 Services Transportation may also establish such additional advisory subcommittees as it
45 deems appropriate to fulfill its mission which shall consist of a representative of each
46 metropolitan planning organization and representatives from each regional commission in
47 this state and may include other local government representatives; private and public sector
48 transportation providers, both for profit and nonprofit; voluntary transportation programs
49 representatives; public transit system representatives, both rural and urban; and
50 representatives of the clients served by the various programs administered by the agencies
51 represented on the State Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human Services
52 Transportation. Members of advisory committees shall be responsible for their own
53 expenses and shall receive no compensation or reimbursement of expenses from the
54 Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services Transportation, the State
55 Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human Services Transportation, or the state for their
56 services as members of an advisory committee.

57 32-12-5.

58 The Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services Transportation shall
59 examine the manner in which transportation services are provided by the participating
60 agencies represented on the committee. Such examination shall include but not be limited
61 to:

62 (1) An analysis of all programs administered by participating agencies, including capital
63 and operating costs, and overlapping or duplication of services among such programs,
64 with emphasis on how to overcome such overlapping or duplication;

65 (2) The means by which transportation services are coordinated among state, local, and
66 federal funding source programs;

67 (3) The means by which both capital and operating costs for transportation could be
68 combined or shared among agencies, including at a minimum shared purchase of vehicles
69 and maintenance of such vehicles;

70 (4) An analysis of those areas which might appropriately be consolidated to lower the
71 costs of program delivery without sacrificing program quality to clients, including shared
72 use of vehicles for client trips regardless of the funding source which pays for their trips;

73 (5) An analysis of state of the art efforts to coordinate rural and human services
74 transportation elsewhere in the nation, including at a minimum route scheduling so as to
75 avoid duplicative trips in a given locality;

76 (6) A review of any limitations which may be imposed by various federally funded
77 programs and how the state can manage within those limitations as they review possible
78 sharing opportunities;

79 (7) An analysis of how agency programs interact with and impact state, local, or regional
80 transportation services performed on behalf of the general public through state, local, or
81 regional transit systems;

82 (8) An evaluation of potential cost sharing opportunities available for clients served by
83 committee agencies so as to maximize service delivery efficiencies and to obtain the
84 maximum benefit on their behalf with the limited amount of funds available; and

85 (9) An analysis of possible methods to reduce costs, including, but not limited to, greater
86 use of privatization.

87 32-12-6.

88 No later than July 1 of each year, the Governor's Development Council shall submit the
89 preliminary report of the Georgia Coordinating Committee for Rural and Human Services
90 Transportation to the members of the State Advisory Subcommittee for Rural and Human
91 Services Transportation. Comments and recommendations may be submitted to the
92 Governor's Development Council for a period of 30 days. No later than September 1 of

93 each year, the Governor's Development Council shall submit a final report to the
94 Governor's Office of Planning and Budget for review and consideration. The report shall
95 address each of the specific duties enumerated in Code Section 32-12-5 and such other
96 subject areas within its purview as the Governor's Development Council shall deem
97 appropriate. Each report shall focus on existing conditions in coordination of rural and
98 human services transportation within the state and shall make specific recommendations
99 for means to improve such current practices. Such recommendations shall address at a
100 minimum both their cost implications and impact on client service. No later than January
101 15 of each year, the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget shall submit the final report
102 of the Governor's Development Council and any affiliated budget recommendations to the
103 presiding officers of the General Assembly, with copies of said report sent to the
104 chairpersons of the transportation committees, the appropriations committees, and the
105 health and human services committees of each chamber of the General Assembly."

106 **SECTION 2.**

107 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
108 without such approval.

109 **SECTION 3.**

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