

The House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs offers the following substitute to HB 223:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 8-2-25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 state-wide application of minimum standard building codes, codes requiring adoption by
3 municipality or county, adoption of more stringent requirements by local governments, and
4 adoption of standards for which state code does not exist, so as to provide an exemption for
5 certain farm buildings or structures; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws;
6 and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 8-2-25 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state-wide
10 application of minimum standard building codes, codes requiring adoption by municipality
11 or county, adoption of more stringent requirements by local governments, and adoption of
12 standards for which state code does not exist, is amended by adding a new subsection to read
13 as follows:

14 "(e)(1) As used in this subsection, the term:

15 (A) 'Agriculture,' 'agricultural operations,' or 'agricultural or farm products' has the
16 meaning provided by Code Section 1-3-3.

17 (B) 'Farm' means real property or a portion thereof used for agricultural operations.

18 (C) 'Farm building or structure' means a building or structure that is located on a farm
19 and designed by the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), not used
20 for residential purposes, not intended primarily for public use, and used primarily for
21 or in connection with agricultural operations for the sole purposes of manure storage
22 and animal mortality composting or winter feeding and following the standards and
23 specifications of NRCS practice codes 313 – Waste Storage Facility and 317 –
24 Composting Facility as detailed in the USDA NRCS Field Office Technical Guide as
25 such existed on January 1, 2011.

26 (2) Farm buildings or structures shall be exempt from the state minimum standard
27 building codes provided for in subdivisions (9)(B)(i)(I) and (9)(B)(i)(IX) of Code Section
28 8-2-20 and any amendment thereto adopted by the department pursuant to Code Section
29 8-2-23 or by a municipality or county pursuant to Code Section 8-2-25."

30 **SECTION 2.**

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

33 **SECTION 3.**

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