

House Bill 448

By: Representative Peake of the 137th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 7 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 Department of Economic Development, so as to provide legislative findings; to define certain
3 terms; to provide that the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority shall develop criteria for
4 designating educational tourist attractions throughout this state which honor members of the
5 hall of fame; to provide for criteria governing the design and placement of signs to be erected
6 on public land recognizing such tourist attractions; to provide for rules and regulations by the
7 State Transportation Board; to amend Code Section 32-6-76 of the Official Code of Georgia
8 Annotated, relating to restrictions on directional signs generally, so as to authorize directional
9 signs to such tourist attractions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
10 for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

13 Chapter 7 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department
14 of Economic Development, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

15 style="text-align:center">"ARTICLE 8

16 50-7-90.

17 (a) The General Assembly finds that:

18 (1) Educational tourist attractions provide unique opportunities for tourists and residents
19 alike to enjoy Georgia's heritage and history; and

20 (2) Opportunities to visit towns and cities throughout Georgia that highlight their
21 accomplishments provide a benefit to the economies of those areas.

22 (b) As used in this Code section, the term:

23 (1) 'Authority' means the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame Authority.

24 (2) 'Educational tourist attraction' means an attraction designated by the authority
25 honoring and recognizing a member of the Georgia Sports Hall of Fame.

26 (c) The authority shall develop criteria for designating educational tourist attractions
27 throughout this state and for signs to be erected on public land throughout this state
28 recognizing such educational tourist attractions in the area in which a sign is to be erected.
29 Such criteria shall include an application process for designation and sign placement and
30 for the appearance, placement, and maintenance of signs. Such criteria shall be subject to
31 rules and regulations promulgated by the State Transportation Board. The cost of
32 designing, manufacturing, erecting, and maintaining the signs shall be the responsibility
33 of the authority.
34 (d) The State Transportation Board shall create rules and regulations for the purpose of
35 implementing this Code section."

36 **SECTION 2.**

37 Code Section 32-6-76, relating to restrictions on directional signs generally, is amended by
38 revising paragraph (11) as follows:

39 "(11) Advertises privately owned activities or attractions other than natural phenomena,
40 scenic attractions, historic, educational, cultural, scientific, and religious sites,
41 agricultural tourist attractions designated by the Department of Agriculture, educational
42 tourist attractions designated by the Georgia Sports hall of Fame Authority, and outdoor
43 recreational areas and which are nationally or regionally known and are of outstanding
44 interest to the traveling public, as determined by the State Transportation Board."

45 **SECTION 3.**

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