

House Bill 225 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Holmes of the 125th, England of the 108th, and McCall of the 30th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
2 provisions relative to agriculture, so as to define a term; to provide that it shall be the policy
3 of this state to promote sustainable agriculture; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 Chapter 1 of Title 2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions
8 relative to agriculture, is amended by revising Code Section 2-1-1, relating to definitions, as
9 follows:

10 "2-1-1.

11 As used in this title, the term:

12 (1) 'Commissioner' means the Commissioner of Agriculture.

13 (2) 'Department' means the Department of Agriculture of this state.

14 (3) 'Sustainable agriculture' or 'sustainable agricultural practices' means science-based
15 agricultural practices, technologies, or biological systems supported by research or
16 otherwise demonstrated to lead to broad outcomes-based improvements, which may
17 include but not be limited to such critical outcomes as increasing agricultural productivity
18 and improving human health through access to safe, nutritious, affordable food and other
19 agricultural products, while enhancing agricultural and surrounding environmental
20 conditions through the stewardship of water, soil, air quality, biodiversity, and wildlife
21 habitat, so as to meet the needs of the present and improve the ability for future
22 generations to meet their own needs while advancing progress toward environmental,
23 social, and economic goals and the well-being of agricultural producers and rural
24 communities."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 Said chapter is further amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

27 "2-1-1.1.

28 It shall be the policy of this state to promote sustainable agriculture."

29 **SECTION 3.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.