

House Bill 624

By: Representative Hatfield of the 177<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a board of commissioners of Ware County, approved March 15,  
2 1963 (Ga. L. 1963, p. 2237), as amended, so as to provide that citizens of Ware County shall  
3 have the right to address or speak to the commissioners on official actions or other topics  
4 relating to the business of the board of commissioners at meetings of the board of  
5 commissioners by expressing their desire to speak no later than the beginning of the meeting  
6 at which such citizens desire to address or speak to the commissioners; to provide for related  
7 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act creating a board of commissioners of Ware County, approved March 15, 1963  
11 (Ga. L. 1963, p. 2237), as amended, is amended by adding a new subsection to Section 5 of  
12 the Act to read as follows:

13 "(c) Any citizen of Ware County shall have the right to address or speak to the board of  
14 commissioners for not longer than five minutes on official actions or other topics relating  
15 to the business of the board of commissioners at meetings of the board of commissioners  
16 by expressing his or her desire to speak no later than the beginning of the meeting at which  
17 such citizen desires to address or speak to the board of commissioners. The board of  
18 commissioners may enact reasonable restrictions on the exercise of such right, including,  
19 but not limited to, decorum and identification of speakers; provided, however, that the  
20 board of commissioners shall not impose any requirements that such citizens sign up or  
21 express their desire to speak at any earlier time or date than provided in this subsection."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.