

House Bill 591 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Hatfield of the 177th and Nimmer of the 178th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing a new charter for the City of Waycross, approved
2 August 17, 1909 (Ga. L. 1909, p. 1456), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April
3 13, 1989 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 4916), so as to provide that citizens of the City of Waycross shall
4 have the right to address or speak to the city commissioners on official actions or other topics
5 relating to the business of the city commission at meetings of the city commission by
6 expressing their desire to speak no later than the beginning of the meeting at which such
7 citizens desire to address or speak to the city commissioners; to provide for related matters;
8 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 SECTION 1.

11 An Act providing a new charter for the City of Waycross, approved August 17, 1909
12 (Ga. L. 1909, p. 1456), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 13, 1989
13 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 4916), is amended by designating the present matter contained in Section 18
14 of the Act as subsection (a) and adding a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

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

24 SECTION 2.

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.