

Senate Resolution 1069

By: Senators Stone of the 23rd, Millar of the 40th, Loudermilk of the 52nd, Jeffares of the 17th, Davis of the 22nd and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Environmental Finance
2 Authority to set aside the adoption of the Georgia amendments to the 2009 International
3 Energy Conservation Code; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the home-building industry is very important to the economy and the citizens
5 of Georgia; and

6 WHEREAS, additional regulations increase the cost of building and the price of housing to
7 consumers and create a constraint on an important, struggling industry; and

8 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia was required to adopt the 2009 International Energy
9 Conservation Code (IECC) to comply with federal mandates attached to the receipt of
10 "stimulus" funds; and

11 WHEREAS, a task force was appointed by the Department of Community Affairs comprised
12 of 17 members, of which only one was a builder and one a code official, while the remaining
13 members represented special interest groups, vendors, and state officials; and

14 WHEREAS, the task force adopted an additional 36 pages of amendments to the original
15 2009 IECC which mandated additional, unnecessary costs to builders and consumers while
16 reducing the flexibility and authority of local governments; and

17 WHEREAS, every code adoption and amendment process should weigh carefully and openly
18 any costs versus benefits to be derived from the additional code provisions; and

19 WHEREAS, the citizens of Georgia should have confidence that all code adoptions and
20 amendments are free of "sweetheart deals," conflicts of interest, and special interest
21 influences; and

22 WHEREAS, due to the financial impact of the code adoption process, the state should use
23 all reasonable means to inform and solicit input from the license holders of any affected
24 industry; and

25 WHEREAS, the code adoption and amendment process should require that members of the
26 task force be held to a code of ethics and prohibited from proposing and voting on
27 amendments that mandate a product or service that they or their employers provide for a fee;
28 prohibit members of the task force from entering contracts with the state to provide services
29 to implement code revisions adopted by the task force; require a policy of written and
30 published cost versus benefit analysis, which includes the identification of the parties who
31 did the analysis; and require reasonable notice of the task force meetings to all licensed
32 builders, contractors, specialty contractors, and code enforcement officials in this state.

33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
34 urge the Department of Community Affairs and the Georgia Environmental Finance
35 Authority to set aside the adoption of the Georgia amendments to the 2009 International
36 Energy Conservation Code that mandate the Blower Door Tests and third-party inspections
37 and to revise the task force process to ensure a fair assessment of amendments and a fair
38 process of code adoption.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
40 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Department of Community Affairs
41 and the Georgia Environmental Finance Authority.