

The House Committee on Judiciary offers the following substitute to HR 1644:

A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Study Committee on Subsidiary Corporation Condemnation for Electric
2 Transmission Lines; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the current law concerning condemnation for the placement of electric
4 transmission lines creates the public expectation that noncost related factors of land use and
5 environmental concerns have real weight; and

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7 WHEREAS, Code Section 22-3-161 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated requires that
8 "the utility shall consider existing land uses in the geographic area where the line is to be
9 located, existing corridors, existing environmental conditions in the area, engineering
10 practices related to the construction and operation of the line, and costs related to the
11 construction, operation, and maintenance of the line"; and

12 WHEREAS, while cost is one of five considerations the utility is supposed to consider, it
13 appears that at times utilities may consider costs to the exclusion of other factors; and

14 WHEREAS, Georgia is one of only a handful of states that have no public oversight agency
15 for electric transmission line placement.

16 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
17 there is created the House Study Committee on Subsidiary Corporation Condemnation for
18 Electric Transmission Lines to be composed of three members of the House of
19 Representatives appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The Speaker of
20 the House of Representatives shall designate one of the appointees to serve as chairperson
21 of the committee. The chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,
23 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions
24 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate. The committee may

25 conduct such meetings at such places and at such times as it may deem necessary or
26 convenient to enable it to exercise fully and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and
27 accomplish the objectives and purposes of this resolution. The committee shall examine the
28 use of condemnation by electric membership corporations and subsidiary corporations of
29 electric membership corporations to construct or expand an electric transmission line, the
30 factors to be considered by such corporations in determining the practical and feasible route
31 for the location of the electric transmission line, and whether there is a need for oversight or
32 changes in the law. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized
33 for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not
34 more than three days unless an additional two days are authorized by the Speaker of the
35 House of Representatives. The funds necessary to carry out the provisions of this resolution
36 shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of Representatives. In the event that
37 the committee makes a report of its findings and recommendations for proposed legislation,
38 such report shall be made no later than December 15, 2012. The committee shall stand
39 abolished on December 15, 2012.