

Senate Resolution 259

By: Senator Hill of the 6th

A RESOLUTION

1 Honoring the Cumberland Community Improvement District; and for other purposes.

2 WHEREAS, Community Improvement Districts (CIDs) were enabled after Georgia Senator
3 Johnny Isakson and the Georgia Representative Roy Barnes sponsored legislation in 1985
4 to allow for the creation of CIDs around this state, with the Cumberland CID specifically in
5 mind; and

6 WHEREAS, located in Cobb County, Georgia, the Cumberland CID, then known as the
7 Cobb County CID, was launched in 1988 as the first in the State of Georgia; and

8 WHEREAS, CIDs are public-private partnerships which allow the local business community
9 to invest in infrastructure planning, funding, and project delivery in order to enhance
10 property values for the benefit of commercial owners as well as local municipalities; and

11 WHEREAS, the Cumberland submarket is one of the largest and most active economic
12 engines in this state, totaling an estimated 5 percent of the State of Georgia's economy; and

13 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID is headquarters to companies critical to this state,
14 including The Home Depot, GE Energy, Genuine Parts Company, Travelport, BlueLinx, and
15 more; and

16 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID houses 62 percent of all of Cobb County's management
17 jobs, underscoring its importance as a corporate center; and

18 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has pioneered the business community's approach to
19 transportation infrastructure investments and is a vested partner to this state, having served
20 as a model to more than 15 other CIDs around Georgia; and

21 WHEREAS, the CID has leveraged \$100 million in business community investments over
22 the past 25 years into hundreds of millions in infrastructure investments to this state's benefit;
23 and

24 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has played a leadership role in advancing critical
25 infrastructure projects over the years, including the \$90 million Cumberland Boulevard
26 Interchange, also known as Kennedy Interchange, and the \$18 million reconstruction of the
27 U.S. 41 Bridge over the Chattahoochee River which connects Cobb and Fulton counties; and

28 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has been an invaluable partner to all levels of Georgia
29 government, including local, regional, and state levels when advocating and delivering
30 federal infrastructure investments; and

31 WHEREAS, in 1996, the Cumberland CID developed and launched this state's first
32 Transportation Management Association, known as Commuter Club, to engage companies
33 and commuters in activities that reduce traffic congestion on Georgia's roadways; to date,
34 commuters have enjoyed more than \$17 million in travel expense savings and eliminated
35 more than 15 tons of harmful pollutants from Georgia's air; and

36 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has been a long-standing champion of the state's first P3
37 project, the NW Corridor Project, and has helped this state secure federal TIFIA loans that
38 allowed the project to advance; and

39 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has been an early adopter and partner in this state's
40 infrastructure bank program and continues to deliver projects through this innovative funding
41 mechanism in order to leverage public and private dollars; and

42 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has been a partner to the local, regional, and state
43 governments on comprehensive planning needs, including infrastructure, transportation, land
44 use, water quality, economic development, and more; and

45 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID has been championed and led by some of this state's most
46 influential public and private leaders who have dedicated decades of energy and time to
47 improving Georgia, including Johnny Isakson, Roy Barnes, John Williams, Sam Olens, and
48 Tad Leithead, among many others; and

49 WHEREAS, the Cumberland CID is a five and a half square mile geographic district
50 surrounding I-285/I-75 in Cobb County and represents: \$4.1 billion in real property value;
51 \$3 billion in commercial property value, up from \$1.2 billion 25 years ago, a 250 percent
52 increase, indicating the direct relationship of infrastructure investments on corporate
53 investments; and 180 commercial property owners who make up 72 percent of the value of
54 the total tax digest, 1.6 percent of Cobb's land but 16 percent of Cobb's commercial digest
55 value; and

56 WHEREAS, CID revenues are based on additional mills placed on commercial properties,
57 and are not residential property taxes or sales taxes; and

58 WHEREAS, CIDs are voluntarily established by local businesses to make improvements in
59 their communities and are not mandated by government; and

60 WHEREAS, CIDs leverage their local dollars against other sources to accomplish their goals,
61 allowing the CIDs to maximize their investors' ROI as well as attracting public investment
62 into the municipality, a win-win for all.

63 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
64 honor the Cumberland Community Improvement District and extend their most sincere best
65 wishes for continued success.

66 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
67 to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Cumberland Community
68 Improvement District.