

House Bill 491

By: Representative Sims of the 169th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to jurisdiction of the state, so as to prohibit the closing of certain areas of streets
3 surrounding Capitol Square during the regular session of the General Assembly; to provide
4 for exceptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 2 of Chapter 2 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 jurisdiction of the state, is amended by revising Code Section 50-2-28, relating to Capitol
10 Square designated, state control and jurisdiction over buildings and grounds, and Governor
11 authorized to deed part of grounds for traffic movement, as follows:

12 "50-2-28.

13 (a) The following area is designated as 'Capitol Square':

14 (1) The property owned by ~~this~~ the state and the sidewalks and streets within the area in
15 the City of Atlanta bounded by Washington Street, Trinity Avenue, Memorial Drive,
16 Capitol Avenue, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive; and

17 (2) The buildings and property owned and operated by the Georgia Building Authority
18 which are located on or bounded by Central Avenue, Trinity Avenue, Memorial Drive,
19 Capitol Avenue, Jessie Hill, Jr. Drive, Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, Peachtree Street,
20 and Marietta Street.

21 (b) The state shall have the same control and jurisdiction over the use of the buildings and
22 grounds owned by the state and designated as Capitol Square as have been authorized by
23 law for the control and supervision of the public property formerly known as the State
24 Capitol Buildings and Grounds.

25 (c) The Governor is authorized and empowered to deed, upon unanimous approval of the
26 Governor, an appointee of the Governor who is not the Attorney General, and the state

27 auditor, upon such terms and conditions as they may deem to be ~~to~~ in the best interests of
28 the state, to the City of Atlanta or other appropriate governmental entity such part of the
29 grounds owned by the state and facing Capitol Avenue that is deemed necessary and
30 essential to widen, straighten, and improve Capitol Avenue at the entrance to Martin Luther
31 King, Jr. Drive; so as to route traffic to such other property which is essential or necessary
32 to aid in the movement of traffic around Capitol Square.

33 (d) No part of Washington Street, Trinity Avenue, Memorial Drive, Capitol Avenue, or
34 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive which is a part of Capitol Square shall be closed or blocked
35 off to motor vehicle traffic during the regular session of the General Assembly, including
36 during any day of such session in which the General Assembly is in adjournment; provided,
37 however, that such streets may be closed or blocked off to motor vehicle traffic on a
38 Saturday or Sunday during adjournment from the regular session of the General Assembly
39 and at any time when required for construction or emergency public safety purposes."

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SECTION 2.

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