

House Bill 116

By: Representatives Atwood of the 179th, Wilkinson of the 52nd, Stephens of the 164th, Jones of the 167th, Williams of the 168th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to wells and drinking water, so as to prohibit the injection of ground water into the
3 Floridan aquifer in certain counties; to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative
4 findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wells
8 and drinking water, is amended by adding a new part to read as follows:

9 "Part 1A

10 12-5-80.

11 This part shall be known and may be cited as the 'Underground Water Supply Protection
12 Act of 2015.'

13 12-5-81.

14 The General Assembly finds that certain areas of the state are dependent on the
15 productivity, integrity, and quality of aquifers underlying those areas for the purpose of
16 providing a clean and reliable water supply. This water supply supports local economies
17 and is superior to alternatives in terms of both cost and reliability. The process of storing
18 surface water in these aquifers for later recovery for water supply or other uses and the
19 process of moving water among aquifers for water supply or other uses (together known
20 as aquifer storage and recovery), pose significant threats to the reliability and physical
21 integrity of these natural water supplies.

22 12-5-82.

23 The practice of aquifer storage and recovery in the Floridan aquifer is prohibited within the
24 Counties of Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty,
25 Long, McIntosh, and Wayne."

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.