By: Senators Beach of the 21st and Mullis of the 53rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local government, so as to regulate procedures governing applications for permits for critical infrastructure projects; to regulate local government zoning procedures with respect to critical infrastructure projects; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7	SECTION 1.
8	Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local government, is amended
9	in Chapter 60, relating to general provisions, by adding a new Code section to read as
10	follows:
11	″ <u>36-60-27.</u>
12	(a) No local government shall provide for a moratorium with respect to any critical
13	infrastructure projects.
14	(b) As used in this Code section, the term:
15	(1) 'Critical infrastructure projects' means:
16	(A) Electrical power transmission lines;
17	(B) Electrical power substations;
18	(C) Water and sewage treatment facilities;
19	(D) Water reservoirs, water storage facilities, and sewer lines;
20	(E) Cellular telephone towers and emergency 9-1-1 system facilities;
21	(F) Natural gas transmission pipelines and power stations; or
22	(G) In-ground fiber optics systems.
23	(2) 'Moratorium' means any suspension of accepting, conducting hearings on, or granting
24	applications for permits. Such term shall not include delay with respect to incomplete
25	applications or due to compliance with any applicable requirements of other general law
26	of this state or of federal law.

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27	(c) Zoning procedures relative to critical infrastructure projects shall be subject to Code
28	Section 36-66-5.1."
29	SECTION 2.
30	Said title is further amended in Chapter 66, relating to zoning procedures, by adding a new
31	Code section to read as follows:
32	″ <u>36-66-5.1.</u>
33	(a) No local government zoning procedures shall provide for a moratorium with respect
34	to any critical infrastructure projects.
35	(b) As used in this Code section, the term:
36	(1) 'Critical infrastructure projects' means:
37	(A) Electrical power transmission lines;
38	(B) Electrical power substations;
39	(C) Water and sewage treatment facilities;
40	(D) Water reservoirs, water storage facilities, and sewer lines;
41	(E) Cellular telephone towers and emergency 9-1-1 system facilities;
42	(F) Natural gas transmission pipelines and power stations; or
43	(G) In-ground fiber optics systems.
44	(2) 'Moratorium' means any suspension of accepting, conducting hearings on, or granting
45	applications for zoning decisions. Such term shall not include delay with respect to
46	incomplete applications or due to compliance with any applicable requirements of other
47	general law of this state or of federal law."

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SECTION 3.

- 49 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
- 50 without such approval.
- 51 **SECTION 4.**
- 52 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.