

House Bill 255 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 138th, Sims of the 123rd, Williams of the 119th, Greene of the 151st, Nimmer of the 178th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to general authority, duties, and procedure relative to state purchasing,
3 so as to require equal credits be given to certain forestry certification systems when using
4 green building standards in state construction, operation, repair, and renovation projects; to
5 provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to general authority, duties, and procedure relative to state purchasing, is amended
11 by revising Code Section 50-5-63, relating to the exclusive use of Georgia forest products
12 in state construction contracts, as follows:

13 "50-5-63.

14 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

15 (1) 'Green building standards' means any system or tool created to rate the environmental
16 efficiency and sustainability of the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of
17 a building.

18 (2) 'State building' means any facility owned, constructed, or acquired by the State of
19 Georgia or any department, board, commission, or agency thereof, including state
20 supported institutions of higher learning.

21 ~~(a)~~(b) No contract for the construction of, addition to, or repair or renovation of any
22 facility, the cost of which is borne by ~~the~~ this state or any department, agency, commission,
23 authority, or political subdivision thereof, shall be let unless the contract contains a
24 stipulation therein providing that the contractor or any subcontractor shall use exclusively
25 Georgia forest products in the construction thereof, when forest products are to be used in

26 such construction, addition, ~~or~~ repair, or renovation, and if Georgia forest products are
27 available.

28 (c) Whenever green building standards are applied to the new construction, operation,
29 repair, or renovation of any state building, the entity applying the standards shall use only
30 those green building standards that give certification credits equally to Georgia forest
31 products grown, manufactured, and certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, the
32 American Tree Farm System, the Forest Stewardship Council, or other similar certifying
33 organization approved by such entity.

34 ~~(b)(d)~~ This Code section shall not apply when in conflict with federal rules and regulations
35 concerning construction."

36 **SECTION 2.**

37 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to all contracts entered into
38 on or after such date.

39 **SECTION 3.**

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