

House Bill 68

By: Representatives Welch of the 110th, Strickland of the 111th, Rutledge of the 109th, and Dickey of the 140th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions relative to regulation of maintenance and use of public roads,
3 so as to provide for emergency pull off shoulders for motor vehicles in construction zones
4 of road expansion projects; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
5 other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 general provisions relative to regulation of maintenance and use of public roads, is amended
10 by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "32-6-6.

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

13 (1) 'Construction zone' means a segment of public road and the surrounding area
14 designated by the department or local governing authority as part of a road expansion and
15 which is in an active construction phase marked by the presence of, among other things,
16 barriers and road work equipment.

17 (2) 'Department' means the Department of Transportation or any party which has entered
18 into a contract with the department to perform a road expansion.

19 (3) 'Emergency pull off shoulder' means an area immediately adjacent to a public road
20 which is wide enough for a motor vehicle to safely exit the flow of traffic in an
21 emergency or to allow a vehicle to safely bypass traffic in order to perform emergency
22 response services. Such area may be paved or unpaved.

23 (4) 'Local governing authority' means the political body with jurisdiction over a road
24 expansion or any party which has entered into a contract with the local governing
25 authority to perform a road expansion.

26 (5) 'Road expansion' means a project which involves the widening of a public road and
27 contains a construction zone open to travel by the public.

28 (b) In any construction zone, the department or local governing authority shall provide an
29 emergency pull off shoulder for the entire distance of the construction zone.

30 (c) In any construction zone with three or more lanes traveling in the same direction, the
31 department or local governing authority shall provide an emergency pull off shoulder on
32 both sides of the outermost lanes for the entire distance of the construction zone."

33 **SECTION 2.**

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