

Representatives Fleming of the 121st, Willard of the 51st, and Trammell of the 132nd offer the following substitute to SB 2:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department of Community Affairs, so as to provide for the development of a ready for partnership certification for each county and municipality by the Department of Community Affairs; to revise the procedure by which a state agency modifies its rules; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Chapter 8 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department of Community Affairs, is amended by adding a new article to read as follows:

"ARTICLE 14

50-8-320.

(a) The Department of Community Affairs shall establish a voluntary certification program for each county and municipality in this state that shall be known as Ready for Partnership Georgia.

(b)(1) There shall be a council created to establish metrics in accordance with subsection (c) of this Code section for certifying counties and municipalities as Ready for Partnership Georgia certified and to provide for a process of review, renewal, and revocation of such certifications.

(2) Such council shall be chaired by the commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs, who shall be a voting member, and shall be composed of 12 additional members as follows:

(A) Three members to be appointed by the Governor;

(B) Three members to be appointed by the President of the Senate;

(C) Three members to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

25 (D) One member to be recommended by the Georgia Municipal Association and
26 approved by the Governor;

27 (E) One member to be recommended by the Association County Commissioners of
28 Georgia and approved by the Governor; and

29 (F) One member to be recommended by the Georgia Chamber of Commerce and
30 approved by the Governor.

31 (c) The certification shall be based upon metrics which shall include, but are not limited
32 to:

33 (1) Licensing and permitting fees charged by the county or municipality;

34 (2) The time required by the county or municipality to process applications for licenses
35 and permits and other regulatory requirements for businesses and professions in the
36 county or municipality;

37 (3) The manner by which dispute resolution over such licensing, permitting, and
38 regulatory requirements is handled;

39 (4) The consolidation of forms and documents to avoid repetitive or duplicative requests
40 for information; and

41 (5) Other items which are determined by the council to be relevant to the development
42 of such certification."

43 **SECTION 2.**

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