

Senate Bill 131

By: Senators Jones of the 25th, Beach of the 21st, Mullis of the 53rd, Harper of the 7th, Brass of the 28th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to aviation, so as to
2 create the Georgia Major Airport Authority; to provide for a short title; to provide for
3 legislative findings and declarations; to provide for definitions; to provide for appointment
4 of members, terms, and filling of vacancies; to provide for officers, quorum, reimbursement
5 for expenses, and compensation of employees; to provide for members accountable as
6 trustees, conflicts of interest, and books and records; to provide for general powers; to
7 provide for requirements for the issuance of revenue bonds or other obligations; to provide
8 for tax exemption; to amend Article 1 of Chapter 15 of Title 45 of the Official Code of
9 Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions relative to the Attorney General, so as to
10 provide for representation of the Georgia Major Airport Authority by the Attorney General;
11 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

13 SECTION 1.

14 Title 6 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to aviation, is amended by adding
15 a new chapter to read as follows:

16 CHAPTER 6

17 6-6-1.

18 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the 'Georgia Major Airport Authority Act.'

19 6-6-2.

20 The General Assembly finds and declares that the construction, equipment, improvement,
21 maintenance, and operation of major airports significantly affect the public welfare of the
22 state. The General Assembly further finds and declares that, for reasons of safety, security,
23 economy, and efficiency, the public welfare of this state is best served by having an

24 authority over such activities for major airports for such purposes as provided by this
25 chapter.

26 6-6-3.

27 As used in this chapter, the term:

28 (1) 'Authority' means the Georgia Major Airport Authority created by Code Section
29 6-6-4.

30 (2) 'Cost of any project' means the cost of acquisition and construction, the cost of all
31 lands, properties, rights, easements, and franchises acquired; the cost of all machinery and
32 equipment, financing charges, interest prior to and during construction or installation and
33 for up to three years after completion of construction or installation; cost of engineering,
34 architectural, and legal expenses and of plans and specifications and other expenses
35 necessary or incident to determining the feasibility or practicability of the project;
36 administrative expense; the costs of establishing and maintaining any necessary funds and
37 reserve funds with respect to the financing or operation of any project, and such other
38 expenses as may be necessary or incident to the financing herein authorized, including
39 the fees and costs of trustees, paying agents, remarketing agents, and other fiscal agents;
40 costs of bond insurance, letter of credit fees, reimbursement agreement fees, and other
41 loan, credit enhancement, or guarantee fees; and, to the completion of construction or
42 installation of any project, the placing of the same in operation, and the condemnation of
43 property necessary for such construction, installation, and operation.

44 (3) 'Major airport' includes any airport or landing field that is located in this state and
45 used for public commercial aviation which conducts more than 400,000 takeoffs and
46 landing in any calendar year.

47 (4) 'Project' means the construction, maintenance, operation, improvement, expansion,
48 or lease of any major airports in this state or any appurtenance thereto or the subsequent
49 renovation or rehabilitation of any such facility. A project may also include any fixtures,
50 machinery, or equipment used on or in connection with any major airport facilities.

51 (5) 'Revenue bonds' and 'bonds' means any bonds of the authority which are authorized
52 to be issued under the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia, including refunding
53 bonds, but not including notes or other obligations of an authority.

54 6-6-4.

55 (a) There is created a body corporate and politic to be known as the Georgia Major Airport
56 Authority which shall be deemed to be an instrumentality of the state and a public
57 corporation, and by that name, style, and title the body may contract and be contracted
58 with, implead and be impleaded, and bring and defend actions in all courts.

59 (b)(1) The authority shall consist of:

60 (A) The Governor or his or her designee;

61 (B) The Lieutenant Governor or his or her designee;

62 (C) The Speaker of the House of Representatives or his or her designee;

63 (D) The commissioner of transportation;

64 (E) The commissioner of public safety; and

65 (F) Four persons with extensive experience in business, aviation, law, or accounting,
66 with two such persons to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives,
67 and the other two such persons to be appointed by the President of the Senate.

68 (2) The initial members of such authority shall take office on January 1, 2020. One
69 member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and one member appointed by the
70 Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve initial terms of office beginning
71 January 1, 2020, and extending until December 31, 2023, and until their successors are
72 appointed and qualified. One member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor and one
73 member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall serve initial
74 terms of office beginning January 1, 2020, and extending until December 31, 2026, and
75 until their successors are appointed and qualified. The appointing officer shall specify
76 the terms of each appointee when making such initial appointments. After the initial
77 terms of office, members shall serve six-year terms beginning on January 1 immediately
78 following the expiration of the previous term of office and until their successors are
79 appointed and qualified. Members shall be eligible for reappointment. Any vacancy
80 shall be filled by the officer who appointed the member whose seat was vacated and the
81 person so appointed shall serve the unexpired term of the member whose vacancy is
82 being filled.

83 (c) The chairperson of the authority shall be a member of the authority elected for a
84 two-year term by a majority vote of the members of the authority. A chairperson may not
85 serve more than two consecutive terms as chairperson.

86 (d) A majority of the members of the authority shall constitute a quorum necessary for the
87 transaction of business, and a majority vote of those present at any meeting at which there
88 is a quorum shall be sufficient to do and perform any action permitted to the authority by
89 this chapter. The chairperson shall vote only in the event of a tie. No vacancy on the
90 authority shall impair the right of the quorum to transact any and all business authorized
91 pursuant to this chapter.

92 (e) The authority shall make rules and regulations for its own governance. It shall have
93 perpetual existence.

94 (f) The members of the authority shall receive no compensation for their services but all
95 members shall be entitled to the expense allowance and transportation cost for travel

96 reimbursement provided for members of certain boards and commissions pursuant to Code
97 Section 45-7-21.

98 (g) The Attorney General shall provide legal services for the authority. In connection
99 therewith, Code Sections 45-15-13 through 45-15-16 shall be fully applicable.

100 (h) The authority is assigned to the Department of Administrative Services for
101 administrative purposes only as prescribed in Code Section 50-4-3.

102 (i) The authority may in its discretion employ an executive director and other personnel.
103 Employees of the authority shall receive reasonable compensation for their services, the
104 amount to be determined by the members of the authority. The authority may also by
105 agreement with any department or agency of state government make use of personnel of
106 such department or agency.

107 (j) The authority shall be subject to Chapter 13 of Title 50, the 'Georgia Administrative
108 Procedure Act.'

109 6-6-5.

110 (a) The members of the authority shall be accountable in all respects as trustees.

111 (b) Every member of the authority and every employee of the authority who knowingly
112 has any interest, direct or indirect, in any contract to which the authority is or is about to
113 become a party, or in any other business of the authority, or in any firm or corporation
114 doing business with the authority, shall make full disclosure of such interest to the
115 authority. Failure to disclose such an interest shall constitute cause for which an authority
116 member may be removed or an employee discharged or otherwise disciplined at the
117 discretion of the authority.

118 (c) Provisions of Article 1 of Chapter 10 of Title 16 and Code Sections 16-10-21 and
119 16-10-22, regulating the conduct of officers, employees, and agents of political
120 subdivisions, municipal and other public corporations, and other public organizations, shall
121 be applicable to the conduct of members, officers, employees, and agents of the authority.

122 (d) Any contract or transaction of the authority involving a conflict of interest not
123 disclosed under subsection (b) of this Code section, or involving a violation of Article 1 of
124 Chapter 10 of Title 16 and Code Sections 16-10-21 and 16-10-22, or involving a violation
125 of any other provision of law regulating conflicts of interest which is applicable to the
126 authority or its members, officers, employees, or agents shall be voidable by the authority.

127 (e) The authority shall keep suitable and proper books and records of all receipts, income,
128 and expenditures of every kind and shall submit to the state auditor for inspection all of
129 such books and records, together with a proper statement of the authority's financial
130 position, on or about December 31 of each year.

131 6-6-6.

132 The authority shall have all of the powers necessary, proper, or convenient to carry out and
133 effectuate the purposes and provisions of this chapter. The powers enumerated in this Code
134 section are cumulative of and in addition to each other and other powers granted elsewhere
135 in this chapter and no such powers limit or restrict any other power of the authority.
136 Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, the powers of the authority shall include
137 the powers:

138 (1) To bring and defend actions;

139 (2) To adopt and amend a corporate seal;

140 (3) To make and execute contracts, agreements, and other instruments necessary, proper,
141 or convenient to exercise the powers of the authority and to further the public purpose for
142 which the authority is created and which comply with applicable federal laws, rules, and
143 regulations, including, but not limited to, contracts for construction of projects, leases of
144 projects, operation of projects, sale of projects, agreements for loans to finance projects,
145 and contracts with respect to the use of projects, including negotiated contracts with air
146 carriers for the use of projects;

147 (4) In connection with any project and subject to prior approval from the federal
148 government, to acquire by purchase, lease, condemnation, or otherwise and to hold, lease,
149 and dispose of real and personal property of every kind and character or any interest
150 therein in furtherance of its corporate purposes;

151 (5) In connection with any project, to acquire in its own name by purchase, on such
152 terms and conditions and in such manner as it may deem proper or by condemnation in
153 accordance with any and all existing laws applicable to the condemnation of property for
154 public use, real property or rights or easements therein or franchises necessary, proper,
155 or convenient for its corporate purposes; and to use the same so long as its corporate
156 existence shall continue and to lease or make contracts with respect to the use of or to
157 dispose of the same in any manner it deems to the best advantage of the authority, the
158 authority being under no obligation to accept and pay for any property condemned under
159 this chapter except from the funds provided under the authority of this chapter; and, in
160 any proceedings to condemn, such order may be made by the court having jurisdiction
161 of the action or proceedings as may be just to the authority and to the owners of the
162 property to be condemned; and no property shall be acquired under this chapter upon
163 which any lien or other encumbrance exists unless at the time such property is so
164 acquired, a sufficient sum of money be deposited in trust to pay and redeem such lien or
165 encumbrance in full;

166 (6) To adopt regulations and fix, alter, charge, negotiate, and collect fares, rates, fees,
167 tolls, and other charges for the use of such projects; provided, however, that such charges

168 and uses are permissible under and are in compliance with applicable federal laws, rules,
 169 and regulations; fix penalties for the violation of adopted regulations; and establish liens
 170 to enforce payment of said charges, fees, and tolls, subject to existing contracts, leases,
 171 and conveyances and in compliance with applicable federal laws, rules, and regulations;
 172 to make such contracts, leases, or conveyances as the legitimate and necessary purposes
 173 of this chapter shall require, including, but not limited to, contracts with private parties
 174 for the operation or lease or assignment to private parties for operation, space, area,
 175 improvements, and equipment on such projects, provided in each case that in so doing no
 176 federal law, rule, or regulation is violated and the public is not deprived of its rightful,
 177 equal, and uniform use thereof;

178 (7) To finance, by loan, grant, lease, or otherwise, and to construct, erect, assemble,
 179 purchase, acquire, own, repair, remodel, renovate, rehabilitate, modify, maintain, extend,
 180 improve, install, sell, equip, expand, add to, operate, or manage projects and to pay the
 181 cost of any project from the proceeds of revenue bonds or other obligations of the
 182 authority or any other funds of the authority or from any contributions or loans by
 183 persons; corporations; partnerships, limited or general; or other entities, all of which the
 184 authority is empowered to receive, accept, and use provided that such use is in
 185 compliance with applicable federal laws, rules, and regulations;

186 (8) To borrow money to further or to carry out its public purpose and to execute revenue
 187 bonds, other obligations, leases, trust indentures, trust agreements, agreements for the sale
 188 of its revenue bonds or other obligations, loan agreements, mortgages, deeds to secure
 189 debt, trust deeds, security agreements, assignments, and such other agreements or
 190 instruments as may be necessary or desirable, in the judgment of the authority, to
 191 evidence and to provide security for such borrowing;

192 (9) To accept loans and grants, either or both, of money, materials, or property of any
 193 kind from the United States government or the State of Georgia or any political
 194 subdivision, authority, agency, or instrumentality of either, upon such terms and
 195 conditions as the United States government or the State of Georgia or such political
 196 subdivision, authority, agency, or instrumentality of either shall impose;

197 (10) To hold, use, administer, and expend such sum or sums as may hereafter be received
 198 as income or gifts or as may be appropriated by authority of the General Assembly for
 199 any of the purposes of the authority and within parameters set forth by federal laws, rules,
 200 or regulations;

201 (11) To issue revenue bonds or other obligations of the authority and use the proceeds
 202 thereof for the purpose of paying or loaning the proceeds thereof to pay all or any part of
 203 the cost of any project and otherwise to further or carry out the public purpose of the

204 authority and to pay all costs of the authority incident to, or necessary and appropriate to,
205 furthering or carrying out such purpose;

206 (12) To make application directly or indirectly to any federal, state, county, or municipal
207 government or agency or to any other source, public or private, for loans, grants,
208 guarantees, or other financial assistance in furtherance of the authority's public purpose
209 and to accept and use the same upon such terms and conditions as are prescribed by such
210 federal, state, county, or municipal government or agency or other source;

211 (13) To enter into agreements with the federal government or any agency or corporation
212 thereof to use the facilities of the federal government or agency or corporation thereof in
213 order to further or carry out the public purpose of the authority;

214 (14) As security for repayment of any revenue bonds or other obligations of the
215 authority, to pledge, mortgage, convey, assign, hypothecate, or otherwise encumber any
216 property of the authority, including, but not limited to, real property, fixtures, personal
217 property, and revenues or other funds; and to execute any lease, trust indenture, trust
218 agreement, agreement for the sale of the authority's revenue bonds or other obligations,
219 loan agreement, mortgage, deed to secure debt, trust deed, security agreement,
220 assignment, or other agreement or instrument as may be necessary or desirable in the
221 judgment of the authority and in compliance with federal laws, rules, or regulations to
222 secure any such revenue bonds or other obligations, which agreements or instruments
223 may provide for foreclosure or forced sale of any property of the authority upon default
224 in any obligation of the authority, either in payment of principal, premium, if any, or
225 interest or in the performance of any term or condition contained in any such agreement
226 or instrument. The State of Georgia on behalf of itself and each county, municipal
227 corporation, political subdivision, or taxing district therein waives any right the state or
228 such county, municipal corporation, political subdivision, or taxing jurisdiction may have
229 to prevent the forced sale or foreclosure of any property of the authority upon such
230 default and agrees that any agreement or instrument encumbering such property may be
231 foreclosed in accordance with law and terms thereof;

232 (15) To receive and use the proceeds of any tax levied by the State of Georgia or any
233 county or municipality thereof to pay the costs of any project or for any other purpose for
234 which the authority may use its own funds pursuant to this chapter, provided that such use
235 complies with applicable federal laws, rules, and regulations;

236 (16) To receive and administer gifts, grants, and devises of money and property of any
237 kind and to administer trusts;

238 (17) To use any real property, personal property, or fixtures or any interest therein; to
239 rent or lease such property to or from others or make contracts with respect to the use
240 thereof; or to sell, lease, exchange, transfer, assign, pledge, or otherwise dispose of or

241 grant options for any such property in any manner allowable under federal laws, rules,
242 and regulations and as it deems to be to the best advantage of the authority and the public
243 purpose thereof;

244 (18) To appoint, select, and employ officers, employees and agents, including engineers,
245 surveyors, architects, urban or city planners, construction experts, fiscal agents, attorneys,
246 and others and to fix the compensation and pay the expenses of such officers, employees,
247 and agents;

248 (19) To exercise any power granted by laws of the State of Georgia to public or private
249 corporations which is not in conflict with the Constitution and laws of the State of
250 Georgia; and

251 (20) To do all things necessary, proper, or convenient to carry out the powers conferred
252 by this chapter, including the adoption of rules and regulations.

253 6-6-7.

254 Revenue bonds or other obligations issued by the authority shall be paid solely from the
255 property, including, but not limited to, real property, fixtures, personal property, revenues,
256 or other funds pledged, mortgaged, conveyed, assigned, hypothecated, or otherwise
257 encumbered to secure or to pay such bonds or other obligations. All revenue bonds and
258 other obligations shall be authorized by resolution of the authority, adopted by a majority
259 vote of the members of the authority at a regular or special meeting. Such revenue bonds
260 or other obligations shall bear such date or dates of such regular or special meeting or
261 meetings; shall mature at such time or times not more than 40 years from their respective
262 dates; shall bear interest at such rate or rates, which may be fixed or may fluctuate or
263 otherwise change from time to time; shall be subject to redemption on such terms; and shall
264 contain such other terms, provisions, covenants, assignments, and conditions as the
265 resolution authorizing the issuance of such bonds or other obligations may permit or
266 provide. The terms, provisions, covenants, assignments, and conditions contained in or
267 provided or permitted by any resolution of the authority authorizing the issuance of such
268 revenue bonds or other obligations shall bind the members of the authority then in office
269 and their successors. The authority shall have the power from time to time, and whenever
270 it deems refunding expedient, to refund any bonds by the issuance of new bonds, whether
271 the bonds to be refunded have or have not matured, and may issue partly to refund bonds
272 then outstanding and partly for any other purpose permitted under this chapter. The
273 refunding bonds may be exchanged for the bonds to be refunded with such cash
274 adjustments as may be agreed upon or may be sold and the proceeds applied to the
275 purchase or redemption of the bonds to be refunded. There shall be no limitation upon the
276 amount of revenue bonds or other obligations which the authority may issue. Any

277 limitations with respect to interest rates or any maximum interest rate or rates found in the
278 usury laws of the State of Georgia, or any other laws of the State of Georgia, shall not
279 apply to revenue bonds or other obligations of the authority.

280 6-6-8.

281 (a) Subject to the limitations and procedures provided by this Code section, the agreements
282 or instruments executed by the authority may contain such provisions not inconsistent with
283 law as shall be determined by the members of the authority.

284 (b) The proceeds derived from the sale of all bonds and other obligations issued by the
285 authority shall be held and used for the ultimate purpose of paying, directly or indirectly
286 as permitted in this chapter, all or part of the cost of any project or for the purpose of
287 refunding any bonds or other obligations issued in accordance with the provisions of this
288 chapter.

289 (c) Issuance by the authority of one or more series of bonds or other obligations for one
290 or more purposes shall not preclude it from issuing other bonds or other obligations in
291 connection with the same project or with any other projects, but the proceeding wherein
292 any subsequent bonds or other obligations shall be issued shall recognize and protect any
293 prior loan agreement, mortgage, deed to secure debt, trust deed, security agreement, or
294 other agreement or instrument made for any prior issue of bonds or other obligations unless
295 in the resolution authorizing such prior issue the right is expressly reserved to the authority
296 to issue subsequent bonds or other obligations on a parity with such prior issue.

297 (d) All bonds issued by the authority under this chapter shall be issued and validated under
298 and in accordance with Article 3 of Chapter 82 of Title 36, the 'Revenue Bond Law,' as
299 heretofore and hereafter amended.

300 (e) The authority shall determine the form of the bonds, including any interest coupons to
301 be attached thereto, and shall fix the denomination or denominations of the bonds and the
302 place or places of payment of principal and interest thereof, which may be at any bank or
303 trust company within or outside this state. The bonds may be issued in coupon or registered
304 form or both, as the authority may determine, and provision may be made for the
305 registration of any coupon bond as to principal alone and also as to both principal and
306 interest.

307 (f) All bonds shall be signed by the chairperson of the authority, and the official seal of the
308 authority shall be affixed thereto and attested by the secretary of the authority, and any
309 coupons attached thereto shall bear the signature or facsimile signature of the chairperson
310 of the authority. Any coupon may bear the facsimile signature of such person and any bond
311 may be signed, sealed, and attested on behalf of the authority by any person duly
312 authorized to hold the proper office at the actual time of the execution of such bonds even

313 if at the date of such bonds, such person may no longer be authorized or shall not hold such
314 proper office. In case any chairperson whose signature shall appear on any bonds or whose
315 facsimile signature shall appear on any coupon shall cease to be such chairperson before
316 the delivery of such bonds, such signature shall nevertheless be valid and sufficient for all
317 purposes the same as if such chairperson had remained in office until such delivery.

318 (g) In lieu of specifying the rate or rates of interest which bonds to be issued by the
319 authority are to bear, the notice to the district attorney or the Attorney General, the notice
320 to the public of the time, place, and date of the validation hearing, and the petition and
321 complaint for validation may state that the bonds, when issued, shall bear interest at a rate
322 not exceeding a maximum per annum rate of interest, which may be fixed or may fluctuate
323 or otherwise change from time to time, specified in such notices and petition and complaint
324 or that, in the event the bonds are to bear different rates of interest for different maturity
325 dates, that none of such rates will exceed the maximum rate which may be fixed or may
326 fluctuate or otherwise change from time to time so specified; provided, however, that
327 nothing contained in this subsection shall be construed as prohibiting or restricting the right
328 of the authority to sell such bonds at a discount, even if in so doing the effective interest
329 cost resulting therefrom would exceed the maximum per annum interest rates specified in
330 such notices and in the petition and complaint.

331 (h) The authority may also provide for the replacement of any bond which becomes
332 mutilated or which is destroyed or lost.

333 (i) The issuance of any revenue bond or other obligation or the incurring of any debt by
334 the authority must, prior to such occurrence, be approved by the Georgia State Financing
335 and Investment Commission established by Article VII, Section IV, Paragraph VII of the
336 Constitution of the State of Georgia of 1983 or its successor.

337 6-6-9.

338 The provisions of this chapter shall be liberally construed to effect its stated purpose. The
339 offer, sale, or issuance of bonds or other obligations by the authority shall not be subject
340 to regulation under the laws of the State of Georgia regulating the sale of securities, as
341 heretofore and hereafter amended. No notice, proceeding, or publication except those
342 required by this chapter shall be necessary to the performance of any act authorized by this
343 chapter nor shall any such act be subject to referendum.

344 6-6-10.

345 No bonds or other obligations of and no indebtedness incurred by the authority shall
346 constitute an indebtedness or obligation of the State of Georgia or any county, municipal
347 corporation, or political subdivision thereof, nor shall any act of the authority in any

348 manner constitute or result in the creation of an indebtedness of the state or any such
349 county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision. No holder or holders of any such
350 bonds or other obligations shall ever have the right to compel any exercise of the taxing
351 power of the state or any county, municipal corporation, or political subdivision thereof,
352 nor to enforce the payment thereof against the state or any such county, municipal
353 corporation, or political subdivision. All such bonds shall contain recitals on their face
354 covering substantially the foregoing provisions of this Code section.

355 6-6-11.

356 It is found, determined, and declared that the creation of the Georgia Major Airport
357 Authority and the carrying out of its corporate purposes are in all respects for the benefit
358 of the people of this state and constitute a public purpose and that the authority will be
359 performing an essential governmental function in the exercise of the power conferred upon
360 it by this chapter. The authority shall be required to pay no taxes or assessments upon any
361 of the property acquired by it or under its jurisdiction, control, possession, or supervision
362 or upon its activities in the operation or maintenance of the facilities erected, maintained,
363 or acquired by it nor upon any fees, rentals, or other charges for the use of such facilities
364 or other income received by the authority. The state covenants with the holders from time
365 to time of the bonds and other obligations issued under this chapter that the authority shall
366 not be required to pay any taxes or assessments imposed by the state or any of its counties,
367 municipal corporations, political subdivisions, or taxing districts on any property acquired
368 by the authority or under its jurisdiction, control, possession, or supervision or leased by
369 it to others or upon its activities in the operation or maintenance of any such property or
370 on any income derived by the authority in the form of fees, recording fees, rentals, charges,
371 purchase price, installments, or otherwise, and that the bonds, notes, and other obligations
372 of the authority, their transfer, and the income therefrom shall at all times be exempt from
373 taxation within the state.

374 6-6-12.

375 The authority is empowered to exercise such of the police powers of the state as may be
376 necessary to maintain peace and order and to enforce any and all restrictions upon its
377 properties and facilities, to the extent that such is lawful under the laws of the United States
378 and this state; however, the authority may delegate the exercise of this function for a time
379 or permanently to the state or to the county or municipality in which its projects are
380 located.

381 6-6-13.

382 (a) This chapter shall not affect any other authority now or hereafter existing under general
 383 or local constitutional amendment or general or local law.

384 (b) The authority is authorized and shall have all powers necessary to participate in federal
 385 programs and to comply with laws relating thereto. Nothing in this chapter shall prevent
 386 the authority from taking any action in order to comply with federal laws, rules, and
 387 regulations.

388 6-6-14.

389 Any action to protect or enforce any rights under this chapter and any action pertaining to
 390 validation of any bonds issued under this chapter brought in the courts of this state shall be
 391 brought in the Superior Court of Fulton County, which shall have exclusive jurisdiction of
 392 such actions."

393 **SECTION 2.**

394 Article 1 of Chapter 15 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
 395 general provisions relative to the Attorney General, is amended by revising Code Section
 396 45-15-13, relating to representation of state authorities by Attorney General, as follows:

397 "45-15-13.

398 As used in Code Sections 45-15-14 through 45-15-16, the term 'state authorities' means the
 399 following instrumentalities of the state: Georgia Building Authority, Georgia Education
 400 Authority (Schools), Georgia Education Authority (University), Georgia Highway
 401 Authority, Georgia Ports Authority, State Road and Tollway Authority, Jekyll
 402 Island—State Park Authority, Stone Mountain Memorial Association, Georgia Major
 403 Airport Authority, and Georgia Emergency Communications Authority."

404 **SECTION 3.**

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