

House Bill 1636

By: Representative Lim of the 99th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to general provisions for the Department of Audits and Accounts, so as to provide
3 for a genuine progress indicator program; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for
4 annual reporting; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 general provisions for the Department of Audits and Accounts, is amended by adding a new
10 Code section to read as follows:

11 "50-6-10.

12 (a)(1) The purpose of the genuine progress indicator program provided for in this Code
13 section is to measure the State of Georgia's economic, environmental, and societal
14 well-being as a supplement to the measurement derived from the gross state domestic
15 product and other existing statistical measurements.

16 (2) The genuine progress indicator is an estimate of the net contributions of economic
17 activity to the well-being and long-term prosperity of a state's citizens, calculated through
18 adjustments to gross state domestic product that account for positive and negative
19 economic, environmental, and social attributes of economic development.

20 (b) It is the intent of the General Assembly that once established and tested, the genuine
21 progress indicator will assist state government in decision making by providing an
22 additional basis for budgetary decisions, including outcomes-based budgeting, by
23 measuring progress in the application of policy and programs and by serving as a tool to
24 identify public policy priorities, including other measures such as human rights.

25 (c) The Department of Audits and Accounts shall negotiate and enter into a memorandum
26 of understanding with one or more branches of the University System of Georgia to work
27 in collaboration to establish and test a genuine progress indicator. Such memorandum shall
28 provide the process by which the genuine progress indicator is established and, once tested,
29 how and by whom the genuine progress indicator shall be maintained and updated. The
30 memorandum shall further provide that in the establishment of the genuine progress
31 indicator, the department, in collaboration with the University System of Georgia, shall
32 create a Georgia data committee made up of individuals with relevant expertise to
33 inventory existing data sets and to make recommendations that may be useful to all data
34 users in Georgia's state government, nonprofit organizations, and businesses.

35 (d) The genuine progress indicator shall use standard genuine progress indicator
36 methodology and additional factors to enhance the indicator, which shall be adjusted
37 periodically as relevant and necessary.

38 (e) Once established, the genuine progress indicator and its underlying data sets that are
39 submitted by the University System of Georgia to the department shall be posted on the
40 department's website.

41 (f) The department shall cooperate in providing data as necessary in order to update and
42 maintain the genuine progress indicator.

43 (g) The department shall provide annual reports to the House Committee on State Planning
44 and Community Affairs and the Senate Government Oversight Committee regarding the
45 maintenance and usefulness of the genuine progress indicator program.
46 (h) Any data sets submitted to the department pursuant to this Code section shall be
47 considered a public record as defined in paragraph (2) of subsection (b) of Code
48 Section 50-18-70."

49 **SECTION 2.**

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