

House Bill 1655

By: Representative Lim of the 99th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 28-5-42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 introduction of bills having significant impact upon anticipated revenues or expenditures and
3 furnishing of fiscal notes, so as to provide that fiscal notes shall provide for future
4 projections, opportunity costs, and analysis of alternatives; to provide for related matters; to
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 28-5-42 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to introduction of
9 bills having significant impact upon anticipated revenues or expenditures and furnishing of
10 fiscal notes, is amended by revising subsection (g) as follows:

11 "(g)(1) The fiscal note required by this Code section shall include a reliable estimate in
12 dollars of the anticipated change in revenue or expenditures under the provisions of the
13 bill. It shall also include a statement as to the immediate effect and, if determinable or
14 reasonably foreseeable, the long-range effect of the measure, including after-effects
15 for 25 and 50 years following the enactment of the measure. A statement as to
16 alternatives and opportunity costs that have been, or should have been, considered shall

17 also be included. If, after careful investigation, it is determined that no dollar estimate is
18 possible, the fiscal note shall contain a statement to that effect, setting forth the reasons
19 why no dollar estimate can be given. In this event, the fiscal note shall contain an
20 example based on a specific situation or reflecting the average group of persons possibly
21 affected by the bill so as to provide an indication of the cost of such bill to the General
22 Assembly. Assumptions used to develop these averages shall be noted in the fiscal note
23 and the criteria included herein shall constitute a fiscal note. No comment or opinion
24 regarding the merits of the measure for which the statement is prepared shall be included
25 in the fiscal note; however, technical or mechanical defects may be noted. The state
26 auditor and the director of the Office of Planning and Budget shall jointly prepare their
27 fiscal note; and, if there is a difference of opinion between such officials, it shall be noted
28 in the fiscal note. In the event the director of the Office of Planning and Budget and the
29 state auditor concur that the fiscal note on any such bill cannot be prepared within the
30 five-day limitation in effect during any regular session of the General Assembly, they
31 shall so inform the chairperson in writing and shall be allowed to submit said note not
32 later than ten days after the request for it is made.

33 (2) For fiscal note requests for a bill having a significant impact on the anticipated
34 revenue or expenditure level of the Department of Education which would create a new
35 program or funding category, the fiscal note shall include a ten-year projection of the
36 costs of such new program or funding category."

37 **SECTION 2.**

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