

House Bill 202 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Epps of the 144th, Roberts of the 155th, and Shaw of the 176th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to highways, bridges,
2 and ferries, so as to provide for requirements for performing value engineering studies; to
3 provide for criteria for the allocation of federal and state funds by the Department of
4 Transportation; to provide for qualifications for the issuance of annual commercial wrecker
5 emergency tow permits; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Title 32 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to highways, bridges, and ferries,
10 is amended by revising subsection (d) of Code Section 32-2-41.2, relating to the development
11 of benchmarks, reports, and value engineering studies by the Department of Transportation,
12 to read as follows:

13 "(d) Value engineering studies shall be performed on all projects whose costs exceed \$10
14 \$50 million, except for any project procured in accordance with Code Sections 32-2-79,
15 32-2-80, and 32-2-81, and the director shall submit an annual report to the Governor, the
16 Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons
17 of the House and Senate Transportation Committees detailing the amount saved due to the
18 value engineering studies. This report shall also be published on the website of the
19 department."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section
22 32-5-30, relating to the allocation of state and federal funds, budgeting periods, and reduction
23 of funds, to read as follows:

24 "(a)(1) The total of expenditures from the State Public Transportation Fund under
25 paragraphs (4), (5), and (6) of Code Section 32-5-21 plus expenditures of federal funds

26 appropriated to the department, ~~not including any federal funds specifically designated~~
 27 ~~for projects that have been earmarked by a member of Congress in excess of appropriated~~
 28 ~~funds~~, shall be budgeted by the department over two successive budgeting periods every
 29 decade. However, such budgeting shall not include:

30 (A) Any federal funds specifically designated for projects that have been earmarked
 31 by a member of Congress in excess of appropriated funds;

32 (B) Any funds for a project undertaken for purposes of providing for the planning,
 33 surveying, constructing, paving, and improving of The Dwight D. Eisenhower System
 34 of Interstate and Defense Highways within the state; or

35 (C) Any funds for a project undertaken for purposes of providing for the planning,
 36 surveying, constructing, paving, and improving of any part of the state designated
 37 freight corridor, when such designation is made by the director of planning with
 38 approval from a majority of the board."

39 SECTION 3.

40 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of Code Section
 41 32-6-28, relating to permits for excess weight and dimensions, to read as follows:

42 "(3) **Annual commercial wrecker emergency tow permit.** Pursuant to this Code
 43 section, the commissioner may issue an annual permit for vehicles towing disabled,
 44 damaged, abandoned, or wrecked commercial vehicles, including combination vehicles,
 45 even though such wrecker or its load exceeds the maximum limits specified in this article.
 46 ~~However, an~~ An annual commercial wrecker emergency tow permit shall not authorize
 47 the operation of a vehicle:

48 (A) Whose single axle weight exceeds ~~21,000~~ 25,000 pounds;

49 (B) Whose load on ~~any one~~ one tandem axle exceeds ~~40,000~~ 50,000 pounds and whose
 50 load on any secondary tandem axle exceeds 38,000 pounds; or

51 (C) Whose total load length exceeds 125 feet."

52 SECTION 4.

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