

The Senate Committee on Economic Development and Tourism offered the following substitute to SB 321:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to buildings and
2 housing, so as to enact the "Property Usage Protection Act" to protect building owners and
3 occupants from disclosure of certain information related to their use of public utilities, water,
4 and wastewater; to provide a short title; to provide for definitions; to prohibit the disclosure
5 of certain data; to provide for statutory construction; to provide for an effective date; to
6 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Title 8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to buildings and housing, is
10 amended by adding a new chapter to read as follows:

11 CHAPTER 8

12 8-8-1.

13 This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the 'Property Usage Protection Act.'

14 8-8-2.

15 For purposes of this chapter, the term:

16 (1) 'Local government' means a county, municipal corporation, or consolidated
17 government.

18 (2) 'Person' means an individual or corporation, partnership, association, or any other
19 legal entity.

20 (3) 'State' means this state and all of its agencies, departments, divisions, bureaus, boards,
21 commissions, authorities, and associations.

22 8-8-3.

23 (a) Neither the state nor any local government shall publicize or otherwise make available
24 to the public any financial, operational, or consumption data related to a person's use of
25 public utilities, water, or wastewater in any way which identifies such person's use of
26 public utilities, water, or wastewater without the express consent of such person.

27 (b) Nothing in subsection (a) of this Code section shall be construed to prohibit the public
28 disclosure of a public record required to be produced in response to a request made
29 pursuant to Article 5 of Chapter 18 of Title 50."

30 **SECTION 2.**

31 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
32 without such approval.

33 **SECTION 3.**

34 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.