Senate Bill 438

By: Senators Thompson of the 33rd, Stokes of the 43rd and Tanksley of the 32nd

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 36-22-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of the Georgia Greenspace Trust Fund, so as to provide for an allocation of certain funds; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 36-22-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the creation of the Georgia Greenspace Trust Fund, is amended by striking the word "and" at the end of paragraph (2) of subsection (b); by redesignating paragraph (3) of subsection (b) as paragraph (4) of subsection (b); and by inserting immediately following paragraph (2) of subsection (b) the following:

"(3) For any county which is entitled to receive appropriated funds in excess of $500,000.00 pursuant to paragraph (1) of this subsection and upon the approval of the commission as provided in this chapter, the Department of Natural Resources shall make disbursements as follows:

(i) One or more grants totaling 90 percent of the amount the county is authorized to receive shall be allocated to the Community Greenspace Trust Funds created by the county and each municipality located in whole or in part within the county as provided in paragraph (3) of Code Section 36-22-6; and

(ii)Ten percent of the amount the county is authorized to receive shall be allocated to the participating municipalities located within the county as one or more matching grants for greenspace acquisition. The Board of Natural Resources shall promulgate rules necessary to implement such matching grant program in such a manner as to encourage municipalities to generate local funds for such purposes as greenspace planning, acquisition, and management. Any such matching funds not disbursed by the date determined pursuant to paragraph (4) of this subsection shall be disbursed to the county´s Community Greenspace Trust Fund."

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.