

Senate Resolution 55

By: Senators Summers of the 13th, Brass of the 6th, Goodman of the 8th, Watson of the 11th, Anderson of the 24th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to increase the maximum acreage to
2 qualify for assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property; to provide for
3 related matters; to provide for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection;
4 and for other purposes.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article VII, Section I, Paragraph III of the Constitution is amended by revising
8 subparagraph (e)(1) as follows:

9 "(e) The General Assembly shall provide by general law:

10 (1) For the definition and methods of assessment and taxation, such methods to include
11 a formula based on current use, annual productivity, and real property sales data, of: 'bona
12 fide conservation use property' to include bona fide agricultural and timber land not to
13 exceed ~~2,000~~ 6,000 acres of a single owner; and 'bona fide residential transitional
14 property;' to include private single-family residential owner occupied property located in
15 transitional developing areas not to exceed five acres of any single owner. Such methods
16 of assessment and taxation shall be subject to the following conditions:

(A) A property owner desiring the benefit of such methods of assessment and taxation shall be required to enter into a covenant to continue the property in bona fide conservation use or bona fide residential transitional use; and

(B) A breach of such covenant within ten years shall result in a recapture of the tax savings resulting from such methods of assessment and taxation and may result in other appropriate penalties; and"

SECTION 2.

The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

"() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to increase the maximum acreage to qualify for assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property from 2,000 acres to 6,000 acres?"

All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall become a part of the Constitution of this state.