The House Committee on Ways and Means offers the following substitute to HB 532:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Code Section 12-6A-12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual grant when state owns property and calculations, so as to revise provisions related to certain counties claiming such grant while also claiming similar grants in Chapter 14 of Title 48, relating to grants and special revenue disbursements; to amend Code Section 48-14-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual grant to counties with 20,000 or more acres of unimproved real estate owned by Department of Natural Resources, so as to revise provisions related to counties claiming such grant while also claiming similar grants; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 12-6A-12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual grant when state owns property and calculations, is amended by revising said Code section as follows:

15 ″12-6A-12.

16 (a) Each county in which is located 20,000 acres or more of unimproved real property
17 belonging to the state and under the custody or control of the department, in which such
18 state-owned property exceeds 10 percent of the taxable real property in the county, and in
19 which such property represents 10 percent or more of the assessed tax digest of the county
20 may receive from the department an annual grant as provided in this Code section.

21 (b) For each county eligible to receive a grant pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code
22 section, the department shall calculate the approximate value of public services which the
23 county provides the department each year; provided, however, that such sum shall not
24 exceed the amount the county would charge any other landowner for such services. The
25 department shall request funds in its annual operating budget each year to reimburse all
26 eligible counties for the provision of such services. In the event the amount appropriated
27 in any year is less than the amount requested, each eligible county shall receive a pro rata
28 share based on the estimated value of services provided.

29 (c) The department is directed to make an annual calculation of the amount of unimproved
30 state-owned real property under its custody or control and determine which counties are
31 eligible for a grant pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section. The first such
32 determination shall be completed not later than December 31, 2020, and each subsequent
33 determination shall be made not later than December 31 of each year. The department is
34 further directed to calculate the approximate value of public services provided by each
35 eligible county as provided in ~~subsection (a) of~~ this Code section.

36 (d) Only land acquired with Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund moneys shall be used in the
37 calculation of this grant.

38 (e) No more than 10 percent of Outdoor Stewardship Trust Fund moneys shall be allocated
39 to grants to offset local taxes during any fiscal year.

40 ~~(f) No county shall be authorized to receive a grant of funds pursuant to both this Code~~
41 ~~section and Code Section 48-14-1.~~″

SECTION 2.

Code Section 48-14-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual grant to counties with 20,000 or more acres of unimproved real estate owned by Department of Natural Resources, is amended by revising said Code section as follows:

"48-14-4.

(a) As used in this Code section, the term 'department' means the Department of Natural Resources.

(b) Each county in which is located 20,000 acres or more of unimproved real property belonging to the state and under the custody or control of the department, in which such state owned property exceeds 10 percent of the taxable real property in the county, and in which such property represents 10 percent or more of the assessed tax digest of the county may receive from the department an annual grant as provided in this Code section.

(c) For each county eligible to receive a grant pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, the department shall calculate the approximate value of public services which the county provides the department each year; provided, however, that such sum shall not exceed the amount the county would charge any other landowner for such services. The department shall request funds in its annual operating budget each year to reimburse all eligible counties for the provision of such services. In the event the amount appropriated in any year is less than the amount requested, each eligible county shall receive a pro rata share based on the estimated value of services provided.

(d) The department is directed to make an annual calculation of the amount of unimproved state owned real property under its custody or control and determine which counties are eligible for a grant pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section. The first such determination shall be completed not later than December 31, 1993, and each subsequent determination shall be made not later than December 31 of each year. The department is further directed to calculate the approximate value of public services provided by each eligible county as provided in subsection (c) of this Code section.

69 ~~(c) No county shall be authorized to receive a grant of funds pursuant to both this Code~~
70 ~~section and Code Section 48-14-1.~~″

71 **SECTION 3.**

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