

## House Resolution 846

By: Representatives Drenner of the 85<sup>th</sup>, Thomas of the 100<sup>th</sup>, Holcomb of the 81<sup>st</sup>, Frye of the 118<sup>th</sup>, Oliver of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Requesting that the Commissioner of Insurance require insurers to disclose climate related  
2 risks; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, climate change concerns have extended from scientific concerns to the financial  
4 viability of the insurance industry and its potential devastating impact on the economy; and

5 WHEREAS, regulators in California, Washington, and New York require insurers writing  
6 more than \$300 million in premiums in these states to submit responses to a climate risk  
7 disclosure survey; and

8 WHEREAS, there is rising concern over the financial impact facing the insurance industry  
9 from climate related risks, and for many years, voluntary reporting mechanism have been the  
10 sole source of information for regulators and investors to view and evaluate insurers' climate  
11 risk management practices; and

12 WHEREAS, 2012 was the warmest year on record in the lower 48 states and the second most  
13 extreme weather year in United States history, creating eleven extreme weather events that  
14 caused \$1 billion in losses each, and one single event, Hurricane Sandy, caused more than  
15 \$50 billion in economic losses; and

16 WHEREAS, with rising sea levels and increasingly powerful storms, the risks to Georgia's  
17 insurers and taxpayers continue to grow; and

18 WHEREAS, not only is the entire state's property at great risk, this state has additional  
19 exposure to its coastal region and power plants, mass transit systems, waste-water treatment  
20 plants, and airports are at risk, and the potential liability for insurers is astronomical; and

21 WHEREAS, it is imperative to raise fundamental questions of the insurance industry as to  
22 preparedness, whether analysis and measures of climate related risk are being made, and  
23 whether the industry is planning for life in a warmer world; and

24 WHEREAS, it is incumbent on insurance regulators to insist that the insurance industry  
25 responds to the need to analyze its preparedness and to mandate that insurers share this  
26 information like that contained in the surveys now mandated in California, Washington, and  
27 New York; and

28 WHEREAS, requiring insurers to disclose information about whether they are prepared and  
29 how they are integrating climate risk into their operations is critical to regulators,  
30 shareholders, consumers, and policy makers.

31 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
32 the members of this body request that the Commissioner of Insurance require insurers to  
33 disclose climate related risks.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
35 and directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Commissioner of  
36 Insurance.