

Senate Resolution 56

By: Senators Watson of the 11th, Hickman of the 4th, Goodman of the 8th, Anderson of the 24th and Kennedy of the 18th

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 "(1) For the definition and methods of assessment and taxation, such methods to
10 include a formula based on current use, annual productivity, and real property sales data,
11 of: 'bona fide conservation use property' to include bona fide agricultural and timber land
12 not to exceed ~~2,000~~ 4,000 acres of a single owner; and 'bona fide residential transitional
13 property;' to include private single-family residential owner occupied property located in
14 transitional developing areas not to exceed five acres of any single owner. Such methods
15 of assessment and taxation shall be subject to the following conditions:

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

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

22 **SECTION 2.**

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

26 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia, for the purpose of protecting family
27 () NO farmland, be amended so as to increase the maximum acreage to qualify for
28 assessment and taxation as a bona fide conservation use property from 2,000
29 acres to 4,000 acres?"

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

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