

House Bill 1073

By: Representatives Watson of the 172<sup>nd</sup>, Jasperse of the 11<sup>th</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, and England of the 116<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 62 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 development authorities, so as to provide for the creation of regional development  
3 authorities; to provide an enhancement for the jobs tax credit for such authorities; to provide  
4 for a grant program for primary care medical facilities; to provide for a definition; to provide  
5 for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Chapter 62 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to development  
9 authorities, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

10 "36-62-5.2.

11 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'participating counties' means all counties party  
12 to a proper joint resolution as set forth in subsection (b) of this Code section.

13 (b) By proper joint resolution of the local governing bodies, an authority, to be known as  
14 a regional development authority, may be created and activated by any group of three to  
15 five contiguous counties, provided that at least one-half of the members of the governing  
16 body from each county have completed a basic economic development training course  
17 certified by the Department of Community Affairs.

18 (c) A regional development authority so created shall be governed by this chapter in the  
19 same manner as other authorities created pursuant to this chapter, except as specifically  
20 provided otherwise in this Code section.

21 (d) A joint resolution creating and activating a regional development authority shall  
22 specify the total number of members of the governing body of the authority, the number  
23 of such members to be appointed by each participating county, their respective terms of  
24 office, and their residency requirements.

25 (e) A joint resolution creating and activating a regional development authority may be  
26 amended from time to time by appropriate concurrent joint resolutions of the regional  
27 development authority and all of the participating counties.

28 (f) Each regional development authority created pursuant to this Code section shall:

29 (1) Be an active, bona fide authority;

30 (2) Have a board of directors;

31 (3) Meet at least quarterly;

32 (4) Develop an operational business plan;

33 (5) Jointly own property lying within one or more of the participating counties with all  
34 of the participating counties; and

35 (6) Maintain among itself and the participating counties an active intergovernmental  
36 agreement that provides for sharing both the operating costs, as well as all municipal and  
37 county revenues derived from all property described in paragraph (5) of this subsection.

38 (g) A county shall not belong to more than one regional development authority.

39 (h) A business enterprise, as defined under subsection (a) of Code Section 48-7-40, that  
40 is located on property as described in paragraph (5) of subsection (f) of this Code section  
41 shall be eligible to qualify for a tax credit for each new full-time employee position in the  
42 amount allowed by Code Section 48-7-40 for the lowest tier participating county within the  
43 regional development authority.

44 (i) One Georgia Authority shall establish a grant program, subject to available funding, for  
45 primary care medical facilities. Regional development authorities shall be eligible to make  
46 application to One Georgia Authority for and obtain grants for primary care medical  
47 facilities located within such regional authorities' respective jurisdictions pursuant to such  
48 grant program."

49 **SECTION 3.**

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