

House Bill 255

By: Representatives Cheokas of the 138<sup>th</sup>, Sims of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, Williams of the 119<sup>th</sup>, Greene of the 151<sup>st</sup>, Nimmer of the 178<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia  
2 Annotated, relating to general authority, duties, and procedure relative to state purchasing,  
3 so as to require equal credits be given to certain forestry certification systems when using  
4 green building standards in state construction, operation, repair, and renovation projects; to  
5 provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal  
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 1 of Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
10 relating to general authority, duties, and procedure relative to state purchasing, is amended  
11 by revising Code Section 50-5-63, relating to the exclusive use of Georgia forest products  
12 in state construction contracts, as follows:

13 "50-5-63.

14 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

15 (1) 'Green building standards' means any system or tool created to rate the environmental  
16 efficiency and sustainability of the design, construction, operation, and maintenance of  
17 a building.

18 (2) 'State building' means any facility owned, constructed, or acquired by the State of  
19 Georgia or any department, board, commission, or agency thereof, including state  
20 supported institutions of higher learning.

21 ~~(a)~~(b) No contract for the construction of, addition to, or repair or renovation of any  
22 facility, the cost of which is borne by ~~the~~ this state or any department, agency, commission,  
23 authority, or political subdivision thereof, shall be let unless the contract contains a  
24 stipulation therein providing that the contractor or any subcontractor shall use exclusively  
25 Georgia forest products in the construction thereof, when forest products are to be used in

26 such construction, addition, ~~or~~ repair, or renovation, and if Georgia forest products are  
27 available.

28 (c) Whenever green building standards are applied to the new construction, operation,  
29 repair, or renovation of any state building, the state shall use only those green building  
30 standards that give certification credits equally to Georgia forest products grown,  
31 manufactured, and certified under the Sustainable Forestry Initiative, the American Tree  
32 Farm System, and the Forest Stewardship Council.

33 ~~(b)~~(d) This Code section shall not apply when in conflict with federal rules and regulations  
34 concerning construction."

35 **SECTION 2.**

36 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to all contracts entered into  
37 on or after such date.

38 **SECTION 3.**

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