

Senate Resolution 654

By: Senators Harrell of the 40th, Henson of the 41st, Jones of the 10th, Butler of the 55th,
Seay of the 34th and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that taxes on motor fuels shall
2 be appropriated for any or all public transportation purposes; to provide for submission of
3 this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 SECTION 1.

6 Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI of the Constitution is amended by revising
7 subparagraph (b) as follows:

8 "(b)(1) An amount equal to all money derived from motor fuel taxes received by the state
9 in each of the immediately preceding fiscal years, less the amount of refunds, rebates, and
10 collection costs authorized by law, is hereby appropriated for the fiscal year beginning
11 July 1, of each year following, for all activities incident to providing and maintaining an
12 adequate system of public roads and bridges transportation in this state, as authorized by
13 laws enacted by the General Assembly of Georgia, and for grants to counties by law
14 authorizing road construction and maintenance, as provided by law authorizing such
15 grants. Said sum is hereby appropriated for, and shall be available for, the aforesaid
16 purposes regardless of whether the General Assembly enacts a general appropriations
17 Act; and said sum need not be specifically stated in any general appropriations Act passed
18 by the General Assembly in order to be available for such purposes. However, this shall
19 not preclude the General Assembly from appropriating for such purposes an amount
20 greater than the sum specified above for such purposes. The expenditure of such funds
21 shall be subject to all the rules, regulations, and restrictions imposed on the expenditure
22 of appropriations by provisions of the Constitution and laws of this state, unless such
23 provisions are in conflict with the provisions of this paragraph. And provided, however,
24 that the proceeds of the tax hereby appropriated shall not be subject to budgetary
25 reduction. In the event of invasion of this state by land, sea, or air or in case of a major
26 catastrophe so proclaimed by the Governor, said funds may be utilized for defense or
27 relief purposes on the executive order of the Governor.

28 (2) As used in this subparagraph (b), public transportation shall include, but not be
29 limited to, roads, bridges, rails, airports, buses, seaports, and all accompanying
30 infrastructure and services necessary to provide access to these public transportation
31 facilities."

32 **SECTION 2.**

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

36 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide that tax
37 collected on motor fuel shall be appropriated for all public transportation
38 () NO purposes?"

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

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