

Senate Bill 278

By: Senators Stone of the 23rd and Anderson of the 24th

**AS PASSED**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To authorize Columbia County to exercise all redevelopment and other powers under Article  
2 IX, Section II, Paragraph VII(b) of the Constitution and Chapter 44 of Title 36 of the  
3 O.C.G.A., the "Redevelopment Powers Law," as amended; to provide for a referendum; to  
4 provide effective dates; to provide for automatic repeal under certain circumstances; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Columbia County shall be and is authorized to exercise all redevelopment and other powers  
9 under Chapter 44 of Title 36 of the O.C.G.A., the "Redevelopment Powers Law," as  
10 amended. The intention of this Act is to authorize Columbia County to undertake and carry  
11 out community redevelopment, to create tax allocation districts, to issue tax allocation bonds,  
12 and to incur other obligations within the meaning of and as fully permitted under the  
13 provisions of Article IX, Section II, Paragraph VII(b) of the Constitution of the State of  
14 Georgia of 1983, as amended, and to authorize Columbia County to exercise redevelopment  
15 powers as fully as the "Redevelopment Powers Law" may now or hereafter permit and not  
16 to limit any redevelopment powers permitted under the "Redevelopment Powers Law."

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 The county election superintendent of Columbia County shall call and conduct an election  
19 as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of Columbia  
20 County for approval or rejection. The county election superintendent shall conduct that  
21 election on any permissible referendum date under Code Section 21-2-540 of the O.C.G.A.,  
22 but not later than the 2018 November general election, and shall issue the call and conduct  
23 that election as provided by general law. The county election superintendent shall cause the  
24 date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately

25 preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Columbia County. The ballot shall have  
26 written or printed thereon the words:

27 "( ) YES Shall the Act be approved which authorizes Columbia County to exercise  
28 redevelopment powers under the 'Redevelopment Powers Law,' as it may  
29 ( ) NO be amended from time to time?"

30 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring  
31 to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on  
32 such question are for approval of the Act, then Section 1 of this Act shall become of full  
33 force and effect immediately. If Section 1 of this Act is not so approved or if the election is  
34 not conducted as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective,  
35 and this Act shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately  
36 following that election date. The expense of such election shall be borne by Columbia  
37 County. It shall be the county election superintendent's duty to certify the results thereof to  
38 the Secretary of State.

39 **SECTION 3.**

40 Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon  
41 its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

42 **SECTION 4.**

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