House Bill 586 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)
By: Representatives Watson of the 172<sup>nd</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Houston of the 170<sup>th</sup>, Blackmon of the 146<sup>th</sup>, Rich of the 97<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, so as to extend the automatic repeal of a sales tax exemption for sales of tickets, fees, or charges for admission to certain fine arts performances or exhibitions; to revise the period for applications for the tax credit for qualified donations of real property; to provide for an aggregate cap; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation is amended by revising paragraph (100) of Code Section 48-8-3, relating to exemptions from sales and use taxes, is amended by revising paragraph (100) as follows:

"(100)(A) Sales of tickets, fees, or charges for admission to a fine arts performance or exhibition conducted within a facility in this state that is owned or operated by an organization which is exempt from taxation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or a museum of cultural significance, if such organization's or museum's mission is to advance the arts in this state and to provide arts, educational, and

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culturally significant programming and exhibits for the benefit and enrichment of the citizens of this state.

(B) As used in this paragraph, the term 'fine arts' means music performed by a symphony orchestra, poetry, photography, ballet, dance, opera, theater, dramatic arts, painting, sculpture, ceramics, drawing, watercolor, graphics, printmaking, and architecture.

(C) This paragraph shall stand repealed and reserved on December 31, 2027.

SECTION 2.

Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (d) of Code Section 48-7-29.12, relating to tax credits for qualified donation of real property, as follows:

"(3) (A) Beginning on January 1, 2016, and ending on December 31, 2021, the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed under this Code section shall not exceed $30 million per calendar year. For the period beginning on June 1, 2022, and ending on December 31, 2026, the aggregate amount of tax credits allowed under this Code section shall not exceed $4 million per calendar year. The Department of Natural Resources shall accept no new applications for the tax credits allowed under this Code section after December 31, 2026.

(B) Prior to any renewal of the exemption for donations of real property beyond the date authorized by subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, the Department of Natural Resources shall provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the chairpersons of the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Senate Finance Committee on the activity of the program occurring during the preceding years. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) The number of applications and the total number of acres donated;
(ii) The value of the qualified donations accepted into the program and which two of the five conservation purposes contained in paragraph (2) of subsection (a) of this Code section were the basis for the qualification of the property;

(iii) The aggregate amount of income tax credits granted pursuant to this Code section; and

(iv) A listing of the direct and indirect benefits to the state due to the donation of land for conservation purposes.”

SECTION 3.

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 4.

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