Senate Bill 581
By: Senators Walker III of the 20th, Ginn of the 47th, Gooch of the 51st, Dugan of the 30th and Miller of the 49th

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 4 of Title 44 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
determination of boundaries, so as to designate the most recent systems of plane coordinates
for defining and stating geographic positions within this state as the Georgia State Plane
Coordinate System; to provide for new names of the east and west zones of the coordinate
system; to use the National Geodetic Survey to provide the precise definition of such zones;
to provide alternative plane coordinates for expressing location of a point; to provide for the
State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors to establish by
rules and regulations the standard of accuracy and specifications for property surveys; to
provide for the use of certain terms; to provide for the conversion of distances between
meters and feet; to validate the use of prior coordinate systems; to amend Code Section
12-8-97 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hazardous site inventory, so
as to conform a cross-reference; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:
SECTION 1.

To amend Chapter 4 of Title 44 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to determination of boundaries, by revising Article 2, relating to coordinate system, as follows:

"ARTICLE 2

44-4-20.

(a) The systems of plane coordinates which have been established by the National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey, formerly the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, or its successors Georgia portion of the State Plane Coordinate System as defined by the National Geodetic Survey, based on the National Spatial Reference System, for defining and stating the geographic positions or locations of points on the surface of the earth within the State of Georgia are hereafter to be known and designated as the 'Georgia Coordinate System' and the 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985.' "Georgia State Plane Coordinate System."

(b) For the purpose of the use of these systems, the state is divided into an 'East Zone' and a 'West Zone':

(1) The area now included in the following counties shall constitute the East Zone: Appling, Atkinson, Bacon, Baldwin, Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Camden, Candler, Charlton, Chatham, Clinch, Coffee, Columbia, Dodge, Echols, Effingham, Elbert, Emanuel, Evans, Franklin, Glascock, Glynn, Greene, Hancock, Hart, Jeff Davis, Jefferson, Jenkins, Johnson, Laurens, Liberty, Lincoln, Long, McDuffie, McIntosh, Madison, Montgomery, Oglethorpe, Pierce, Richmond, Screven, Stephens, Taliaferro, Tattnall, Telfair, Toombs, Treutlen, Ware, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Wheeler, Wilkes, and Wilkinson; and

(2) The area now included in the following counties shall constitute the West Zone: Baker, Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Ben Hill, Berrien, Bibb, Bleckley, Brooks, Butts,

44-4-21.
(a) As established for use in the East Zone, the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System or the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 shall be named; and, in any land description in which it is used, it shall be designated as the 'Georgia State Plane Coordinate System East Zone' or the 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 East Zone.'
(b) As established for use in the West Zone, the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System or the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 shall be named; and, in any land description in which it is used, it shall be designated as the 'Georgia State Plane Coordinate System West Zone' or the 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 West Zone.'

44-4-22.
The plane coordinate values for a point on the earth's surface, used to express the geographic position or location of such point in the appropriate zone of the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System, shall consist of two distances expressed in U.S. Survey feet and decimals of a foot when using the Georgia Coordinate System and expressed in either meters and decimals of a meter or, following conversion as provided...
in Code Section 44-4-28 44-4-27, in American Survey feet and decimals of a foot when using the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System of 1985. One of these distances, to be known as the 'x-coordinate,' shall give the position in an east-and-west direction; the other, to be known as the 'y-coordinate,' shall give the position in a north-and-south direction. These coordinates shall be made to depend upon and conform to plane rectangular coordinate values for the monumented points of the North American Horizontal Geodetic Control Network as published by the National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey, formerly the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, or its successors, and whose plane coordinates have been computed on the systems defined in this article. Any such control monument may be used for establishing a survey connection to either Georgia Coordinate System East or x-coordinate shall give the distance east of the Y axis; the other, to be known as the North or y-coordinate shall give the distance north of the X axis. The Y axis of any zone shall be parallel with the central meridian of the zone. The X axis of any zone shall be perpendicular to the central meridian of that zone.

44-4-23.

When any tract of land to be defined by a single description extends from one into the other of the above coordinate zones established in Code Section 44-4-21, the positions of all points on its boundaries may be referred to either of the two zones, the zone which is used being specifically named in the description.

44-4-24.

(a) For purposes of more precisely defining the Georgia Coordinate System, the following definition of the United States Coast and Geodetic Survey, now National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey, is adopted:

(1) The 'Georgia Coordinate System East Zone' is a transverse Mercator projection of the Clarke spheroid of 1866, having a central meridian eighty-two degrees ten minutes west
of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set one part in 10,000 too small. The origin
of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian eighty-two degrees ten minutes west
of Greenwich and the parallel thirty degrees north latitude. This origin is given the
coordinates: \(x = 500,000\) feet and \(y = 0\) feet; and

(2) The 'Georgia Coordinate System West Zone' is a transverse Mercator projection of
the Clarke spheroid of 1866, having a central meridian eighty-four degrees ten minutes
west of Greenwich, on which meridian the scale is set one part in 10,000 too small. The
origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the meridian eighty-four degrees ten minutes
west of Greenwich and the parallel thirty degrees north latitude. This origin is given the
coordinates: \(x = 500,000\) feet and \(y = 0\) feet.

(b) For purposes of more precisely defining the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985, the
following definition by the National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey is adopted:

(1) The 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 East Zone' is a transverse Mercator
projection of the North American Datum of 1983, having a central meridian eighty-two
degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich, on which central meridian the scale is set one
part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the central
meridian eighty-two degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich and the parallel thirty
degrees north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: \(x = 200,000\) meters and \(y =
0.000\) meters; and

(2) The 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 West Zone' is a transverse Mercator
projection of the North American Datum of 1983, having a central meridian eighty-four
degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich, on which central meridian the scale is set one
part in 10,000 too small. The origin of coordinates is at the intersection of the central
meridian eighty-four degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich and the parallel thirty
degrees north latitude. This origin is given the coordinates: \(x = 700,000\) meters and \(y =
0.000\) meters.
No coordinates based on either Georgia State Plane Coordinate System purporting to define the position of a point on a land boundary shall be presented to be recorded in any public land records or deed records unless such point has been connected by survey to a monumented horizontal control station that is identified and has been established in conformity with the standards of accuracy and specifications as prepared and published by the Federal Geodetic Control Committee of the United States Department of Commerce. Standards and specifications of the Federal Geodetic Control Committee or its successors in force on the date of said survey shall apply. The publishing of the existing control stations, or the acceptance with intent to publish the newly established control stations, by the National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey will constitute evidence of adherence to the Federal Geodetic Control Committee specifications shall be specified by rules and regulations established by the State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors.

The use of the term 'Georgia State Plane Coordinate System East Zone,' 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 East Zone,' 'Georgia State Plane Coordinate System West Zone,' or 'Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 West Zone' on any map, report of survey, or other document shall be limited to coordinates based on the Georgia State Plane Coordinate Systems as defined in this article.

The term 'Grid North, Georgia East Zone' refers to the fixed north direction in the East Zone, being Geodetic North for the central meridian eighty-two degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich of that zone. The term 'Grid North, Georgia West Zone' refers to the fixed north direction in the West Zone, being Geodetic North for the central meridian eighty-four degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich of that zone.
degrees ten minutes west of Greenwich of that zone. The applicable Grid North term and the basis of orientation shall appear on maps of survey that are purported oriented to a Georgia State Plane Coordinate System zone.

44-4-28. 44-4-27.
Any conversion of distances between the meter and the American Survey foot will be based upon the length of the meter (exactly) equals 39.37 inches or 3.28083333333/3 feet.

44-4-29. 44-4-28.
Nothing contained in this article shall require any purchaser or mortgagee to rely on a description, any part of which depends exclusively upon the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System or the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985. Nothing in this article shall be so construed as to require any person, firm, or corporation to use these systems of coordinates to obtain or secure a legal description of land or real estate.

44-4-30. 44-4-29.
(a) Any legal description prepared under the provisions of the Georgia Coordinate System provided by an Act approved March 6, 1945 (Ga. L. 1945, p. 218), and continued as a part of this Code until July 1, 1985, shall not be invalid based on the use of such coordinate system.

(b) Any continual use of legal descriptions prepared under the terms of the Georgia Coordinate System provided by an Act approved March 6, 1945 (Ga. L. 1945, p. 218), and continued as a part of this Code until July 1, 1985, which have been recorded or filed in official records within this state, shall not be invalid based on the use of such coordinate system.
(c) Any continual use of legal descriptions prepared under the terms of the Georgia Coordinate System provided by an Act approved on March 28, 1985 (Ga. L. 1985, p. 650), and continued as a part of this Code until July 1, 2022, which have been recorded or filed in the official records within this state, shall not be invalid based on the use of such coordinate system.

44-4-30.

(a) The use of the term 'Georgia State Plane Coordinate System' on any map, report of survey, legal description, or other document shall be limited to coordinates based on the Georgia State Plane Coordinate System as defined by this article.

(b) The provisions of this article shall not be construed to prohibit the appropriate use of other geodetic reference networks.

44-4-31.

The Georgia Coordinate System provided for in the Act approved March 6, 1945 (Ga. L. 1945, p. 218), shall not be used after January 1, 1990; the Georgia Coordinate System of 1985 will be the sole system after said date."

SECTION 2.

Code Section 12-8-97 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to hazardous site inventory, is amended by revising subsection (d) as follows:

"(d) After July 1, 1993, each property owner who owns real property upon which hazardous wastes, hazardous constituents, or hazardous substances have been disposed of or released in amounts exceeding reportable quantities shall, within 30 days of receipt of knowledge by the property owner of the release or disposal, notify the division in writing on such forms as may be provided by the director. This notification shall include the location, type, quantity, and date of such disposal or release, if known, and a summary of
actions taken to investigate, clean up, or remediate the site. Such notification shall include a quadrangle map prepared in accordance with the National Ocean Survey/National Geodetic Survey or a Georgia State Plane Coordinate System pursuant to Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 44 that clearly indicates the location of the disposal or release; provided, however, that any property owner that has notified the United States Environmental Protection Agency under Section 103(c) of the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, may satisfy this notification requirement by submitting a copy of the 103(c) notice together with such quadrangle map."

SECTION 3.

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