
GOVERNOR BRIAN P. KEMP
2022 SESSION OF THE GEORGIA GENERAL ASSEMBLY
VETO MESSAGES & SIGNING STATEMENTS

VETO 1

Senate Bill 473 would reapportion the districts for the Sumter County Board of Education.

At the request of the sponsor, **I VETO SENATE BILL 473.**

VETO 2

House Bill 1538 would annex parcels of land into the City of Smyrna from unincorporated Cobb County. Several of these parcels are currently zoned for a land use designation that is not recognized by the City of Smyrna Zoning Ordinance (the “Smyrna Ordinance”). Per the Smyrna Ordinance, upon annexation, these parcels would be rezoned to the land use designation which is most like their Cobb County land use designation.

Since these parcels’ current land use designation is not recognized by the Smyrna Ordinance, these parcels would be rezoned to a less-intense land use designation than how they are currently zoned. This rezoning would cause these property owners to suffer a significant detriment in their property values and would amount to a violation of their due process rights.

For the foregoing reasons, **I VETO HOUSE BILL 1538.**

VETO 3

Senate Bill 616 would change the compensation of the solicitor-general of the State Court of Chattooga County.

At the request of the sponsor, **I VETO SENATE BILL 616.**

STATEMENT ON HOUSE BILL 476

House Bill 476 removes the Georgia Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors (“PELS”) Board from the jurisdiction of the Professional Licensing Board Division (“PLB”) of the Secretary of State’s Office. Though I firmly believe in the efficiency afforded by PLB, and the concept of a centralized, uniform process for occupational licensure and regulation, I recognize there are rare instances where the independence of a licensing board better protects public health, provides better service for industry needs, and promotes efficiency in government.

In reviewing House Bill 476, the Georgia Occupational Regulation Review Council (“GORRC”) found the current operation of the PELS Board presents a potential for harm, specifically noting delays in enforcement for violations presenting a threat to public health and safety. While I strongly support the policy of consolidating administrative functions to find efficiencies in government, I believe in this specific instance the current threat to public health and safety outweighs potential issues raised regarding the Board’s independence.

Most engineering firms are small businesses, with far fewer than 50 employees and many operations include only one or two individuals. Insufficient communication and lack of enforcement by PLB is hindering the ability of these small businesses to respond to industry demands at a time when our state needs their timely services.

For the foregoing reasons, **I SIGN HOUSE BILL 476.**