

House Bill 1026 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Hagan of the 156th, Efstoration of the 104th, Burchett of the 176th, Jones of the 47th, Sainz of the 180th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government,
2 so as to provide for economic initiatives in this state; to designate the Southeast Georgia
3 Soap Box Derby as the official soap box derby of the State of Georgia; to provide for
4 promotion of the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby; to enact the "Richard H. Smith
5 Georgia CHIPS Advancement in Research and Economic Development Act"; to provide for
6 definitions; to provide for grant and loan programs to incentivize and attract semiconductor
7 companies to locate or relocate to this state; to provide for research and development and
8 advanced packaging incentives to support such relocations; to provide for the establishment
9 and purposes of the Governor's CHIPS Economic Development Fund and the Research and
10 Development and Advanced Packaging Incentives Fund; to establish the Georgia CHIPS and
11 Advanced Technology Consortium to serve as an advisory body; to provide for an executive
12 committee and its duties; to provide for related matters; to provide for legislative findings;
13 to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

15 **PART I**
16 **SECTION 1-1.**

17 The General Assembly finds that:

- 18 (1) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby began in 1992 in Lyons, Georgia;
19 (2) Approximately 20 cars were involved in the first race, competing in only one division;
20 (3) Today, the event has grown to an average of 50 drivers competing in four divisions,
21 including one division for drivers with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
22 (4) Three World Champions have qualified at the Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby in
23 Lyons;
24 (5) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby's mission includes building knowledge and
25 character, creating meaningful experiences through collaboration, hosting fair and honest
26 racing competitions, and supporting a STEM curriculum; and
27 (6) The race is open to girls and boys between the ages of seven and 20.

28 **SECTION 1-2.**

29 Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government, is amended
30 in Article 3 of Chapter 3, relating to state symbols, by adding a new Code section to read as
31 follows:

32 "50-3-92.

33 (a) The Southeast Georgia Soap Box Derby in Lyons, Georgia, is designated as the official
34 soap box derby of the State of Georgia.

35 (b) The Department of Economic Development and other public agencies and leaders in
36 the tourism industry are encouraged to work together to maximize advertising programs
37 which permit citizens of other states and nations to learn of the Southeast Georgia Soap
38 Box Derby and to visit this state for tourism purposes."

39

PART II

40

SECTION 2-1.

41 This part shall be known and may be cited as the "Richard H. Smith Georgia CHIPS

42 Advancement in Research and Economic Development Act."

43

SECTION 2-2.

44 Said title is further amended in Chapter 34, relating to the OneGeorgia Authority, by adding

45 a new Code section to read as follows:

46 "50-34-21.

47 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

48 (1) 'Consortium' means the Georgia CHIPS and Advanced Technology Consortium
49 established pursuant to this Code section.

50 (2) 'Executive committee' means the executive committee of the consortium.

51 (b) Subject to available funding, the authority shall establish grant programs, loan
52 programs, or both for the purposes of:

53 (1) Leveraging the expertise and capacity of institutions of higher education in this state,
54 industry, and nonprofit organizations focused on semiconductor and advanced technology
55 economic and workforce development to develop a comprehensive strategic plan to
56 ensure ongoing semiconductor innovation;

57 (2) Sustaining the leadership of this state in advanced semiconductor research, design,
58 and manufacturing;

59 (3) Attracting public and private investment in this state related to research,
60 development, commercialization, and manufacturing of semiconductors;

61 (4) Identifying and expanding opportunities for workforce training and development
62 related to the research, design, and manufacturing of semiconductors and related
63 advanced technologies;

64 (5) Establishing a forum for public and private stakeholders across the semiconductor
65 manufacturing industry in this state to focus on education, research and development, and
66 commercial production; and

67 (6) Encouraging and supporting the authorization and creation of joint development
68 authorities to attract and support the semiconductor industry and related suppliers.

69 (c) The authority shall be authorized to receive and administer public and private funds
70 received pursuant to this Code section. Such funds shall be distributed through the
71 following separate funds, to the extent authorized by law:

72 (1) The Governor's CHIPS Economic Development Fund is hereby created. Such fund
73 may be used to provide grants to semiconductor companies who relocate to this state as
74 well as those currently in Georgia to support the expansion of the industry. Such grants
75 and loans:

76 (A) Shall be performance based and customized for the specific needs of each
77 company;

78 (B) May be utilized by a company seeking to locate to Georgia that has been vetted
79 commercially by the consortium and awarded federal funding to assist in the buildout
80 of their domestic commercial manufacturing;

81 (C) May be used to assist with employee relocation related expenses;

82 (D) May be directed using a preference for companies whose product also has a
83 demonstrated or feasible end-use for electric vehicles; and

84 (E) May be used to establish a site development fund to assist communities in the
85 preparation of sites for the semiconductor industry that can be applied for by economic
86 development organizations or local government entities; and

87 (2) The Research and Development and Advanced Packaging Incentives Fund is hereby
88 created. Such fund may be used for the following purposes:

89 (A) Pathway to workforce education and training grants for eligible recipients
90 including technical and community colleges in this state, local school systems,

- 91 nonprofit organizations supporting summer camps, and other entities supporting
92 development training or introduction to careers in semiconductors, microelectronics,
93 and respective laboratories;
- 94 (B) Providing matching funds for advanced packaging pilot facilities to advance an
95 institute of higher education application to apply for a national advanced packaging
96 pilot facility that would be located in Georgia. The funds would be utilized should an
97 institute be a recipient of such designation from a federal program; and
- 98 (C) Georgia innovation funds for:
- 99 (i) Public-private commercialization initiatives for grants to match private investment
100 supporting research and development commercialization in partnership with Georgia
101 institutions of higher education;
- 102 (ii) University research and development initiatives aimed at helping institutions of
103 higher education in this state recruit distinguished researchers and engineers from
104 around the world to the State of Georgia to bolster both the standing of institutions of
105 higher education in this state and economic development efforts state wide; and
- 106 (iii) Microelectronics incubator initiatives to assist small business growth and create
107 new jobs through increased access to capital. Funding for such initiatives is intended
108 to assist all small businesses but shall focus on traditionally marginalized
109 communities and businesses that focus on uplifting those communities.
- 110 (d)(1) The Georgia CHIPS and Advanced Technology Consortium (GCATC) is
111 established as an advisory panel to the authority for purposes of administering grant and
112 loan programs pursuant to this Code section. The consortium shall be composed of a
113 designee of each of the following institutions of higher education appointed by the office
114 of the president of each respective institution:
- 115 (A) Georgia Institute of Technology;
- 116 (B) University of Georgia;
- 117 (C) Georgia State University;

- 118 (D) Kennesaw State University;
119 (E) University of North Georgia;
120 (F) University of West Georgia;
121 (G) Valdosta State University;
122 (H) Columbus State University;
123 (I) Morehouse College; and
124 (J) Georgia Southern University.

125 (2) In addition to the appointments under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the executive
126 committee established under subsection (e) of this Code section may appoint any other
127 entity or individual the executive committee considers necessary.

128 (3) In making appointments under paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection, priority shall
129 be given to individuals with experience in semiconductor design and manufacturing.

130 (e)(1) The consortium shall be governed by an executive committee composed of the
131 following members:

132 (A) Three members appointed by the Governor;

133 (B) Two members appointed by the President of the Senate;

134 (C) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

135 (D) The chancellor of the University System of Georgia or his or her designee; and

136 (E) The president of Technical College System of Georgia or his or her designee.

137 (2) In making appointments under paragraph (1) of this subsection, priority shall be
138 given to individuals with experience in manufacturing, design, industrial development,
139 academic research, and scientific research in the field of semiconductors.

140 (3) In making appointments under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the Governor, the
141 President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall coordinate
142 to ensure that at least two representatives from the commercial semiconductor design and
143 manufacturing sectors with an established presence in the state are appointed to the
144 executive committee.

- 145 (f)(1) The executive committee shall:
- 146 (A) Develop and execute a comprehensive statewide strategic plan to further the
- 147 purposes set out in subsection (b) of this Code section;
- 148 (B) Solicit recommendations from consortium members on funding and research
- 149 opportunities related to semiconductor research, design, commercialization, and
- 150 manufacturing;
- 151 (C) Appoint an executive director of the consortium and determine the title, functions,
- 152 duties, powers, and salary for the executive director; and
- 153 (D) Prepare and submit the report required by paragraph (2) of this subsection.
- 154 (2) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the executive committee
- 155 shall prepare and submit a report to the authority that outlines:
- 156 (A) Activities undertaken to meet the purposes set out in subsection (b) of this Code
- 157 section;
- 158 (B) A summary of the funding and research opportunities identified under
- 159 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of this subsection;
- 160 (C) Any legislative recommendations to further the purposes set out in subsection (b)
- 161 of this Code section;
- 162 (D) Any prospective grants or funding the consortium members expect to apply for or
- 163 receive; and
- 164 (E) Any research accomplishments associated with the consortium."

165 **PART III**

166 **SECTION 3-1.**

167 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law

168 without such approval.

169

SECTION 3-2.

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