

RESOLUTION 2020-XX-XX

A RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT LEGISLATION FOR THE GEORGIA LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY ACT

WHEREAS, locally elected officials work in partnership with citizens, the state of Georgia and the federal government to address ongoing funding needs for infrastructure projects and other capital investments which are crucial to maintaining safe communities and impact economic development efforts; and

WHEREAS, Georgia cities have \$11.2 billion of capital needs between now and the year 2022, with the greatest needs being infrastructure, public safety and government buildings; and

WHEREAS, taxpayers consistently continue to invest local dollars by supporting Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) and Transportation Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (TSPLOST) referendums; and

WHEREAS, tax increases alone will not be sufficient to address all outstanding projects, state legislation to establish a local government finance authority would provide a lower cost, efficient source for municipal and county governments to fund various projects and equipment needs; and

WHEREAS, an authority could be operated by both Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) and Association County Commissioners of Georgia (ACCG) to issue tax-exempt bonds to local government for financing of goods, real and personal property, structures and supplies; and

WHEREAS, such financing would be through revenue bonds pursuant to intergovernmental contracts; and

WHEREAS, while municipalities are currently authorized under Georgia law to participate in lease purchase financing, it is more expensive relative to other governmental financing options; and

WHEREAS, changing state law to provide municipalities and counties a more efficient funding source through the issuance of pooled revenue bonds by a local government finance authority will reduce the overall costs of capital spending and save Georgia taxpayers dollars.

WHEREAS, this Resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED Board of Directors of the Georgia Municipal Association, that this body voices its support for the Georgia Local Government Infrastructure Finance Authority Act.

Approved:

Lynn P. Deutsch, Mayor

Attest: