

The House Committee on Rules offers the following substitute to SB 132:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 3 of Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, the "Georgia Surface Mining Act of 1968," so as to provide for a three-year
3 moratorium on the acceptance of applications for new permits by the Environmental
4 Protection Division of the Department of Natural Resources for surface mining utilizing
5 dragline mining for heavy mineral sands; to prohibit tolling; to provide for related matters;
6 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 3 of Article 2 of Chapter 4 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the
10 "Georgia Surface Mining Act of 1968," is amended by adding a new Code section to read
11 as follows:

12 "12-4-85.

13 (a) Beginning on July 1, 2024, and continuing until June 30, 2027, the division shall accept
14 no applications for new permits for surface mining utilizing dragline mining for heavy
15 mineral sands in areas for which no prior surface mining permit has been obtained;
16 provided, however, that the three-year period shall not be tolled or extended for any reason;