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Local Redistricting Gets Loud

Environment

HB748 would amend the Marshland Protection Act to allow only 60 days for the state to verify that a landowner has King's Grant ownership of salt marsh property. The King's Grant dates back to the founding of Georgia as the 13th colony and recognizes that the sea, the seashore and the things that live under the sea belong to no individual but are public property. As such, Georgia's marsh is state property and King's Grants are extremely rare. The process to prove private ownership is long and thorough under the 1970 act to protect the marsh. Reducing that to 60 days could result in false claims getting through and the privatization of the marsh. A third of the remaining salt marsh on the eastern seaboard, a vital curb on flooding especially in the face of climate change, lies in Georgia.

HB432 would create the Environmental Justice Commission to require those applying for permits in neighborhoods of people of color or low-income families to take certain actions to mitigate health hazards. Government agencies would have to take the disproportionate effect of environmental hazards into account in the permitting process.

HR70 sets the goal of 100% clean energy for the state by 2050.