Support HB 1072 Weed Out Bad Actors

Stronger oversight is essential to safeguard Georgia's residents, natural resources, and economy. Companies with poor compliance records have no place endangering communities — **this legislation ensures that only responsible businesses receive permits**. Proactively protecting communities from bad actors will reduce long-term costs including health care, cleanup, and disaster response expenses.

The Legislation at a Glance

→ The proposed legislation would require the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD) to investigate and consider the regulatory history — both in-state and out-of-state — of companies applying for industrial and waste permits.

→By including a review of a company's compliance history, it would strengthen environmental protections and promote responsible business practices across Georgia.

Why is this Legislation Necessary?

Protecting Vulnerable Communities:

→ Small and rural communities often lack the resources and expertise to investigate the regulatory history of industrial companies seeking permits to operate in their areas.

→ Without this critical information, these communities are at risk of hosting companies with poor compliance records, potentially leading to health hazards and environmental degradation.

Ensuring Accountability:

→ A company's past actions are the best predictor of its future behavior. Reviewing their regulatory history ensures that businesses operating in Georgia demonstrate good practices, compliance with safety requirements, and a commitment to community welfare.

The BioLab Example:

The recent fire at the BioLab facility in Conyers, Georgia, is a glaring example of why this legislation is needed. This fire is the fifth incident at the facility in the past 20 years, underscoring a troubling pattern of safety and operational issues.

THIS LEGISLATION PROTECTS GEORGIANS' HEALTH & SAFETY, PROMOTES INDUSTRY RESPONSIBILITY, AND PREVENTS ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE.

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