

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY FULTON

**RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE GOVERNOR TO VETO HB179, AS PASSED BY
THE GEORGIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATE**

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs is a Georgia municipal corporation; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council are the governing authority of the City of Sandy Springs; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia House of Representatives and Senate have passed HB179; and

WHEREAS, HB179, as passed, allows billboard owners to clear cut trees within two hundred fifty (250) feet of a state right-of-way fence or boundary and/or within three hundred fifty (350) feet of the pavement edge; and

WHEREAS, HB179, as passed, prohibits any beautification projects that include the planting of trees in the right-of-way that may in the future obscure billboards; and

WHEREAS, HB179, as passed, removes many existing restrictions on the types of trees that billboard companies may remove; and

WHEREAS, HB179, as passed, gives the billboard industry an unknown amount of credits for removing illegal signs toward their cost for tree removal and maintenance permits; and

WHEREAS, the Georgia Department of Transportation has revealed that its cost for managing the billboard program last year was \$915,000. Although HB179 provides for an increase in fees for permitting of billboards and the renewal fees are increased, the fees are not sufficient to cover the cost of processing applications and inspections; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council do not believe that subsidizing the billboard industry is in the best interests of the citizens of the City;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the City of Sandy Springs that the City of Sandy Springs respectfully requests that Governor Nathan Deal veto HB179 as passed for the protection of the scenic beauty and the environment of the State of Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the office of the Governor of the State of Georgia.

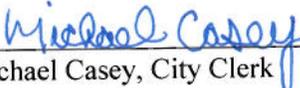
RESOLVED this the 5th day of April, 2011.

Approved:



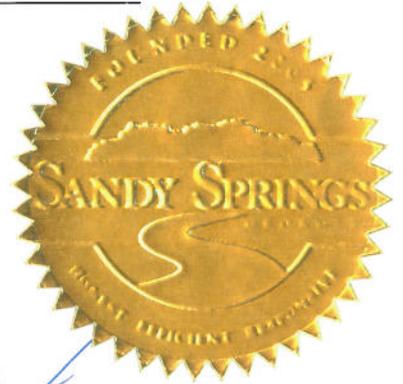
Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:



Michael Casey, City Clerk

(Seal)





Councilmember Tibby DeJulio



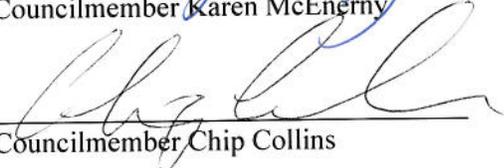
Councilmember Dianne Fries



Councilmember Karen McEnery



Councilmember John Paulson



Councilmember Chip Collins



Councilmember Gabriel Sterling