



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**GEORGIA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

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**COMMISSION TO HOLD HEARING ON 706 AREA CODE RELIEF**

ATLANTA –The Public Service Commission will hold a public hearing on March 15, 2001 at 1:30 p.m. to take testimony on implementing the new area code for 706. The hearing will take place in room 110 at the Commission’s offices at 244 Washington St. S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334.

Interested parties may provide oral comments at the hearing or they may submit written comments to the Commission prior to the Commission’s Telecommunications Committee meeting on March 29, 2001. Comments may be sent to the above address.

The Commission is scheduled to issue a decision on the 706 area code relief plan at its April 3, 2001 Administrative Session. Under the current implementation schedule, permissive dialing would begin on September 1, 2001 with the effective date of the new area code being October 1, 2002.

Current projections estimate that without the institution of a new area code, the 706 area code will be exhausted during the fourth quarter of 2002.

The new area code will be implemented either as an overlay over the existing area code or a geographic split of the current area.

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