



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

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**COMMISSION REJECTS NEW 706 AREA CODE ASSIGNMENT**

ATLANTA – The Public Service Commission today turned down a recommendation for a new area code assignment within the current 706 area code. On a motion by Commissioner David Burgess, the Commission unanimously ordered the telecommunications industry and Commission staff to begin number conservation measures that would further extend the life of the 706 area code. Burgess’ motion also called for the Commission to petition the Federal Communications Commission for authority to start implementation of 1,000-block number pooling tests in the Augusta and Columbus areas.

Commissioner Burgess noted that proper conservation measures could “extend the life of the 706 area code into the year 2004 and possibly beyond.” Burgess notes there are 202 exchanges in the 706 area code that are unused and available for assignment.

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