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For Immediate Release

Governor Signs Bill Limiting Towing Liability

One of the major initiatives of the TIME Task Force's *Metro Atlanta Strategic Vision* has been accomplished! On May 16, 2007, Governor Perdue signed into law House Bill 231, which limits liability for Georgia's towing and recovery operators.

The new law amends Ga. Code 32-6-2 to add liability protection to the towing and recovery industry, so that neither the wrecker operator nor the wrecking company can be held liable for any damages except gross negligence. When instructed by the Police, Fire or the Georgia Department of Transportation to remove any obstacle determined to be "a threat to public health or safety or to mitigate traffic congestion," the wrecker operator can do his work as a fully empowered member of the incident management team.

"This legislation really improves teamwork between the towing operators and first responders," said Gary Millsaps, TIME President and Manager of GDOT's HERO Unit. "With the onset of new statewide quick clearance policies, this law protects the wrecker companies from being sued for doing their jobs."

The bill was developed with the support of the Georgia Regional Transportation Authority (GRTA), the TIME Task Force, and the Towing and Recovery Association of Georgia (TRAG), working closely with Georgia towing companies and state legislators.

The TIME Task Force extends special thanks to Vance Smith, Representative of the 129th District and Chairman of the House Transportation Committee, and the other lawmakers who sponsored the bill. Thanks are also due to GRTA members Steve Stancil, Executive Director, Marvin Woodward, Director of Projects and Engineering, and John Keys, External Affairs Director, for their hard work in getting this legislation passed.

To learn more about the Metro Atlanta Strategic Vision and other TIME efforts, visit www.timetaskforce.com.