We are disappointed to convey this news: HB 641, the Child Protection and Public Safety Act, did not move through the Senate as expected and will not become law this year.

The bill needed to pass out of the Senate Rules Committee by the close of Monday's legislative day in order to be put before the full Senate for a vote. That did not happen, effectively stopping the progress of HB 641 for this year.

The JUSTGeorgia coalition looks forward to once again collaborating with Gov. Deal and House Yesterday, the Georgia State Senate unanimously passed the Uniform Partition of Heirs Property Act 43-0! This key Senate vote - which was preceded by unanimous passage of the bill in the Georgia House of Representatives - makes Georgia the first state in the South to pass a uniform partition law.

Since adopting the Heir Property Project in 2008, Georgia Appleseed has worked to advance property rights as a means of lessening poverty in our state, and the passage of the Act is a major step toward accomplishing this goal.

"This bill establishes several crucial protections for owners of heir property," said Georgia Appleseed Executive Director Sharon Hill. "Georgia Appleseed is grateful for the efforts of Rep. Edward Lindsey, who has spearheaded the process of bringing a uniform partition law to Georgia, and Rep. Kathy Ashe, a Georgia Appleseed
and Senate leaders during the 2013 legislative session to ensure that these critical reforms are adopted in Georgia.

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Board member and bill sponsor. Both of these individuals have helped shepherd this critical piece of legislation through the General Assembly."

To learn more about how the Act will protect heir property owners, check out our fact sheet on the legislation.

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