Senate Bill 36
By: Senators Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd, Williams of the 19th, Watson of the 1st, Sims of the 12th and Jackson of the 2nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT
To amend Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wells and drinking water, so as to prohibit the injection of ground water into the Floridan aquifer in certain counties; to provide for a short title; to provide for legislative findings; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.
Article 3 of Chapter 5 of Title 12 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to wells and drinking water, is amended by adding a new part to read as follows:

"Part 1A
12-5-80. This part shall be known and may be cited as the 'Underground Water Supply Protection Act of 2015.'
12-5-81. The General Assembly finds that certain areas of the state are dependent on the productivity, integrity, and quality of aquifers underlying those areas for the purpose of providing a clean and reliable water supply. This water supply supports local economies and is superior to alternatives in terms of both cost and reliability. The process of storing surface water in these aquifers for later recovery for water supply or other uses and the process of moving water among aquifers for water supply or other uses (together known as aquifer storage and recovery), pose significant threats to the reliability and physical integrity of these natural water supplies.

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The practice of aquifer storage and recovery in the Floridan aquifer is prohibited within the Counties of Brantley, Bryan, Camden, Charlton, Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, and Wayne.

SECTION 2.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.