

House Bill 1556

By: Representatives Boggs of the 168th, Skipper of the 137th, Snow of the 2nd, Jenkins of the 110th and Sims of the 167th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia
2 Annotated, relating to professional bondsmen, so as to provide that the sheriff of a county
3 shall require any professional bondsman seeking to operate in such county to initiate a
4 criminal background investigation of such person; to provide for the submission of
5 fingerprints to the Georgia Crime Information Center and the Federal Bureau of Investigation;
6 to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Part 2 of Article 2 of Chapter 6 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
10 relating to professional bondsmen, is amended by inserting at the end of Code Section
11 17-6-50, relating to persons deemed professional bondsmen, a new subsection to read as
12 follows:

13 "(c) The sheriff of the county in which the bonding business is seeking approval shall
14 initiate a criminal background investigation to ensure that a professional bondsman is a
15 person of good moral character and has not been convicted of a felony or a crime involving
16 moral turpitude in this state or any other jurisdiction. The sheriff shall require the
17 professional bondsman to furnish two full sets of fingerprints which the sheriff shall submit
18 to the Georgia Crime Information Center. The center shall submit a full set of fingerprints
19 to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history record check."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
22 without such approval.

23 **SECTION 3.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.