

House Bill 597

By: Representatives Bulloch of the 180th, Walker of the 141st, Stokes of the 92nd, Crawford of the 129th and Davis of the 60th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-15-70 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 counsel for public officials and agencies, so as to allow certified court reporters to receive
3 counsel; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

5 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

6 Code Section 45-15-70 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to counsel for
7 public officials and agencies, is amended by striking subsection (a) in its entirety and
8 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

9 "(a) When any action or proceeding is filed in any court of this state, in any federal court,
10 or with any professional licensing board, disciplinary board or commission, or other similar
11 body, which action or proceeding is against a public officer, public official, a state board
12 or bureau, or against any member of such board or bureau or a certified court reporter as
13 defined in Code Section 15-14-22 and which action or proceeding seeks relief against such
14 officer, official, board, ~~or~~ bureau, court reporter in the administration of his, her, or its
15 duties, and when the state compensates or appropriates or allocates moneys to such officer,
16 official, board, ~~or~~ bureau, or court reporter which is used in the administration of his, her,
17 or its duties, and this shall include county registrars, and when no regular counsel is
18 provided within a reasonable time for such officer, official, board, bureau, court reporter,
19 or county registrar by the Attorney General, then the Governor may direct the Attorney
20 General to provide such counsel. In the event the Attorney General refuses to provide such
21 counsel within a reasonable time after having been directed by the Governor to do so, the
22 Governor is authorized to designate legal counsel in such case for such officer, official,
23 board, or bureau, or any member of such board or bureau, court reporter, or county
24 registrar."

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SECTION 2.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.