

House Bill 657

By: Representatives Broome of the 160<sup>th</sup>, Skipper of the 137<sup>th</sup>, Shanahan of the 10<sup>th</sup>, Stokes of the 92<sup>nd</sup> and Lanier of the 145<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-14-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 definitions applicable to the "Georgia RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt  
3 Organizations) Act," so as to change the definition of the term "pattern of racketeering  
4 activity" and thereby change the applicability and effect of said Act; to provide for related  
5 matters; to provide for an effective date, applicability, and construction; to repeal conflicting  
6 laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Code Section 16-14-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to definitions  
10 applicable to the "Georgia RICO (Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations) Act," is  
11 amended by striking paragraph (8) and inserting in its place a new paragraph to read as  
12 follows:

13 "(8) 'Pattern of racketeering activity' means engaging in at least two ~~incidents~~ acts of  
14 racketeering activity in furtherance of one or more incidents, schemes, or transactions  
15 that have the same or similar intents, results, accomplices, victims, or methods of  
16 commission or otherwise are interrelated by distinguishing characteristics and are not  
17 isolated incidents, provided at least one of such ~~incidents~~ acts occurred after July 1, 1980,  
18 and that the last of such ~~incidents~~ acts occurred within four years, excluding any periods  
19 of imprisonment, after the commission of a prior ~~incident~~ act of racketeering activity."

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 This Act shall become effective July 1, 2001. This Act shall apply with respect to a pattern  
22 of racketeering activity where at least one act of racketeering activity occurs on or after that  
23 date. Prior law shall continue to apply with respect to a pattern of racketeering activity which  
24 does not include at least one act of racketeering activity occurring on or after that date.

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**SECTION 3.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.