

House Bill 116

By: Representative Howard of the 118<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-10-70 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 holding office in political subdivision, political party, or political organization by nonelective  
3 state officers or employees, so as to provide that nonelective state officers and employees  
4 may use annual and personal leave to fulfill the duties or functions of such elective or  
5 appointive offices that occur during the officer's or employee's work hours and to provide  
6 an additional amount of unpaid leave equal to one-half of the total amount of leave allotted  
7 to the officer or employee each year to fulfill the duties or functions of such elective or  
8 appointive offices that occur during the officer's or employee's work hours; to provide an  
9 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

12 Code Section 45-10-70 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to holding office  
13 in political subdivision, political party, or political organization by nonelective state officers  
14 or employees, is amended by striking the Code section in its entirety and inserting in lieu  
15 thereof a new Code section to read as follows:

16 "45-10-70.

17 No rules or regulations of any state agency, department, or authority shall prohibit  
18 nonelective officers or employees of this state from offering for or holding any elective or  
19 appointive office of a political subdivision of this state or any elective or appointive office  
20 of a political party or political organization of this state, provided that the office is not full  
21 time and does not conflict with the performance of the official duties of the person as a  
22 state employee. Such nonelective officers and employees are authorized to use annual and  
23 personal leave for the purpose of fulfilling any official duties or functions of such elective  
24 or appointive offices that arise during the officer's or employee's work hours. In addition,  
25 such nonelective officers and employees are authorized to use an additional amount of  
26 unpaid leave equal to one-half of the total annual leave allotted for such nonelective officer

1 or employee each year for the purpose of fulfilling such official duties or functions of such  
2 elective or appointive offices that arise during the officer's or employee's work hours. The  
3 agency, department, or authority employing such nonelective officer or employee may  
4 require written certification from the officer or employee that the leave time was used for  
5 the purpose of fulfilling the official duties or functions of such elective or appointive  
6 offices."

7 **SECTION 2.**

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

10 **SECTION 3.**

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