

House Bill 685

By: Representative Ray of the 128<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To abolish the present mode of compensating the coroner and deputy coroner of Crawford  
2 County, known as the fee system; to provide in lieu thereof an annual salary for the coroner  
3 and deputy coroner; to provide that all fees, costs, or other emoluments of said officers shall  
4 become the property of the county; to provide for the collection of all such fees, costs, and  
5 emoluments; to provide for periodic statements; to provide for the payment of the operating  
6 expenses of said office; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
7 purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 The present mode of compensating the coroner and deputy coroner of Crawford County,  
11 known as the fee system, is abolished, and in lieu thereof, an annual salary for each of such  
12 officers is prescribed as provided in this Act.

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 (a) The coroner of Crawford County shall receive an annual base salary in the amount of  
15 \$12,000.00 payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of Crawford County.

16 (b) The deputy coroner of Crawford County shall receive an annual base salary in the  
17 amount of \$2,500.00 payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of Crawford  
18 County.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 After the effective date of this Act, said coroner shall diligently and faithfully undertake to  
21 collect all fees, fines, forfeitures, commissions, costs, allowances, penalties, funds, moneys  
22 and all other emoluments and perquisites formerly allowed the coroner as compensation for  
23 his or her services as coroner, and shall receive and hold the same in trust for said county as

1 public moneys and shall pay the same into the county treasury on or before the fifteenth day  
2 of each month next following the month in which they were collected or received.

3 **SECTION 4.**

4 The necessary operating expenses of the coroner's office shall be paid from any funds of the  
5 county available for such purpose. All supplies, materials, furnishings, furniture, utilities,  
6 and equipment, and the repair, replacement, and maintenance thereof, as may be reasonably  
7 required in discharging the official duties of said office, shall be furnished by the county and  
8 shall be paid from any funds of the county available for such purpose. The determination of  
9 such requirements shall be at the sole discretion of the governing authority of Crawford  
10 County.

11 **SECTION 5.**

12 In addition to compensation provided for in Section 2 of this Act, the coroner shall be  
13 reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses, including expenses for lodging and meals,  
14 incurred by such officer in carrying out his or her official duties within and outside the  
15 county, but within the state, including attendance at seminars or training required pursuant  
16 to Code Section 45-16-66 of the O.C.G.A.; provided, however, that the coroner shall be  
17 required to submit to the board of commissioners of Crawford County an itemized, verified  
18 account of any such expenses; and provided, further, that the coroner shall not be reimbursed  
19 more than \$1,800.00 per annum for actual and necessary expenses incurred in carrying out  
20 his or her duties. When using his or her personal automobile in traveling on official business  
21 outside the county, the coroner shall be reimbursed for travel expenses at the legal mileage  
22 rate authorized under Code Section 50-19-7 of the O.C.G.A., as now or hereafter amended.  
23 All expenses provided for in this section shall be paid from the funds of Crawford County.  
24 Expenses provided for in this section are in addition to any operating expenses provided for  
25 in Section 4 of this Act.

26 **SECTION 6.**

27 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2002.

28 **SECTION 7.**

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