

House Bill 700

By: Representatives Murphy of the 18<sup>th</sup>, Walker of the 141<sup>st</sup> and Westmoreland of the 104<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 28 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the General  
2 Assembly, so as to provide that the Legislative Services Committee shall meet at least twice  
3 a year rather than at least once a quarter; to make a conforming change; to repeal conflicting  
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Title 28 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the General Assembly, is  
8 amended by striking paragraph (1) of subsection (b) of Code Section 28-1-8, relating to  
9 compensation of members of the General Assembly, and inserting in its place a new  
10 paragraph to read as follows:

11 "(b)(1) During regular and extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly, each member  
12 shall also receive a daily expense allowance. Each member shall also receive the mileage  
13 allowance for the use of a personal car when devoted to official business as provided for  
14 in Code Section 50-19-7, for not more than one round trip to and from the member's  
15 residence and the state capitol by the most practical route, per calendar week, or portion  
16 thereof, during each regular and extraordinary session. In the event a member travels by  
17 public carrier for any part of a round trip as provided above, such member shall receive  
18 a travel allowance of actual transportation costs for each such part in lieu of the mileage  
19 allowance. For each day's service within the state as a member of a standing committee  
20 or of an interim committee created by or pursuant to a resolution of either or both houses  
21 or as a member of a committee, board, bureau, commission, or other agency created by  
22 or pursuant to statute or the Constitution of Georgia, such member shall receive a daily  
23 expense allowance and the mileage allowance for the use of a personal car when devoted  
24 to official business as provided for in Code Section 50-19-7 or a travel allowance of  
25 actual transportation costs if traveling by public carrier. Any such member shall also be  
26 reimbursed for any conference or meeting registration fee incurred in the performance of

1 his or her official duties as a member of any committee, board, bureau, commission, or  
 2 other agency. In the event it becomes necessary for a committee to rent a meeting room  
 3 in the performance of the duties of the committee, the committee chairperson must have  
 4 prior written approval of the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House, or both,  
 5 as the case may be, depending on the composition of the committee. The expense of such  
 6 rental shall be billed to the committee. For each day's service out of state as a member  
 7 of any committee, board, bureau, commission, or other agency, such member shall  
 8 receive actual expenses as an expense allowance, plus the mileage allowance for the use  
 9 of a personal car when devoted to official business as provided for in Code Section  
 10 50-19-7 or a travel allowance of actual transportation costs if traveling by public carrier  
 11 or by rental motor vehicle. The amount of the daily expense allowances provided for in  
 12 this paragraph shall be fixed by the Legislative Services Committee; provided, however,  
 13 that the amount of the daily expense allowance shall remain at \$75.00 until changed by  
 14 the Legislative Services Committee. The Legislative Services Committee shall  
 15 periodically review, and when appropriate revise, the amount of the daily expense  
 16 allowance ~~at its fourth calendar quarter meeting in each fiscal year, with the revisions to~~  
 17 ~~take effect in the following fiscal year. The committee may likewise review and revise~~  
 18 ~~the amount at other times as deemed appropriate by the Legislative Services Committee.~~  
 19 The amount of the daily expense allowance shall be fixed by the Legislative Services  
 20 Committee in an amount which reasonably corresponds to the housing and meal expenses  
 21 typically incurred by members in the performance of their duties; provided, however, that  
 22 the amount so fixed shall not exceed the federal per diem rate in effect for the state  
 23 capital as specified by the General Services Administration at the time that the committee  
 24 acts."

## 25 SECTION 2.

26 Said title is further amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 28-4-1, relating to  
 27 creation and operations of the Legislative Services Committee, and inserting in its place a  
 28 new subsection to read as follows:

29 "(c) The committee shall meet at least ~~once~~ twice during each calendar ~~quarter~~ year.  
 30 Additional meetings may be held upon the call of the chairperson or upon the call of a  
 31 majority of the members of the committee. Nine members of the committee shall  
 32 constitute a quorum and the affirmative vote of a majority of those members present at a  
 33 meeting of the committee, provided such members present constitute a quorum, shall be  
 34 necessary to transact business of the committee. The chairperson shall be entitled to vote  
 35 on all matters requiring a vote of the committee."

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**SECTION 3.**

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