

The Senate Judiciary Committee offered the following substitute to SB 214:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-16-45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 authority of coroners and medical examiners to disinter bodies, so as to provide that the chief
3 medical examiner of the Division of Forensic Sciences of the Georgia Bureau of
4 Investigation and district attorneys shall have the authority to disinter bodies under certain
5 circumstances; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

8 Code Section 45-16-45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to authority of
9 coroners and medical examiners to disinter bodies, is amended by striking the Code section
10 and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 45-16-45 to read as follows:

11 "45-16-45.

12 (a) In order to implement this article, coroners and the chief medical examiner are
13 authorized to disinter any body already buried and, like a sheriff, to command the power
14 of the county for that purpose.

15 (b) ~~Medical examiners, other than local~~ County medical examiners; and district attorneys
16 may likewise exercise such authority in any case wherein such authority is granted by an
17 order of the judge of the superior court of the county. Such orders may be granted by
18 judges of the superior courts, in their discretion, upon petition of ~~any~~ a county medical
19 examiner ~~other than a local medical examiner~~.

20 (c) Upon the issuance of an order under subsection (a) or (b) of this Code section, the
21 county board of health shall issue all necessary permits to disinter and reinter the body."

SECTION 2.

22 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
23 without such approval.
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SECTION 3.

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- 2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.