

House Bill 994

By: Representatives Howard of the 98th, Bruce of the 45th, Warren of the 99th, Murphy of the 97th, Walker of the 115th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 15-12-101 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 supervision and dissolution of and additional investigations by special grand juries in
3 counties and consolidated city-county governments having a population of 70,000 or more,
4 so as to provide for additional circumstances under which such special grand juries shall be
5 dissolved or continued; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 15-12-101 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to supervision
9 and dissolution of and additional investigations by special grand juries in counties and
10 consolidated city-county governments having a population of 70,000 or more, is amended
11 by striking subsection (b) and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

12 "(b)(1) Any special grand jury impaneled pursuant to Code Section 15-12-100 and not
13 otherwise dissolved shall stand dissolved on August 1, 2003, or one year after the date
14 on which such special grand jury was impaneled, whichever is later, unless within 30
15 days prior to such applicable date of automatic dissolution a majority of the judges of the
16 superior court of the county vote in favor of continuing the special grand jury. If a
17 majority of the judges vote in favor of continuing the special grand jury, the chief judge
18 shall instruct and charge the special grand jury as to the particular matters to be
19 investigated; and the special grand jury shall be required to investigate further and
20 establish a period of time within which the investigation shall be completed. At the
21 expiration of the period of time, the special grand jury shall be dissolved.

22 (2) At any time when ~~When~~ the judge assigned to a special grand jury decides that the
23 special grand jury's investigation has been completed or on the issuance of a report by
24 the special grand jury of the matter investigated by it reporting that the investigation has
25 been completed, the judge so assigned shall recommend to the chief judge of the superior
26 court that the special grand jury be dissolved. The chief judge shall report the

1 recommendation to the judges of the superior court of the county and, upon a majority
2 thereof voting in favor of the dissolution of the special grand jury, the special grand jury
3 shall stand dissolved. If a majority of the judges do not vote in favor of the dissolution
4 of the special grand jury, the chief judge shall instruct and charge the special grand jury
5 as to the particular matters to be investigated; and the special grand jury shall be required
6 to investigate further and establish a period of time within which the investigation shall
7 be completed. At the expiration of the period of time, the special grand jury shall be
8 dissolved."

9 **SECTION 2.**

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