

House Bill 1602 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Boggs of the 145<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 129<sup>th</sup>, Post 2, and Mosley of the 129<sup>th</sup>,  
Post 1

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the State Court of Ware County, formerly the City Court of  
2 Waycross, approved December 11, 1897 (Ga. L. 1897, p. 510), as amended, particularly by  
3 an Act approved April 16, 1999 (Ga. L. 1999, p. 4373), so as to provide for the compensation  
4 of the solicitor-general and the judge of said court; to provide for related matters; to provide  
5 an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act creating the State Court of Ware County, formerly the City Court of Waycross,  
9 approved December 11, 1897 (Ga. L. 1897, p. 510), as amended, particularly by an Act  
10 approved April 16, 1999 (Ga. L. 1999, p. 4373), is amended by striking Section 4A and  
11 inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 4A to read as follows:

12 "SECTION 4A.

13 (a) The solicitor-general of the State Court of Ware County shall receive an annual salary  
14 in the amount of \$36,000.00 or such larger amount as may from time to time be provided  
15 for in general state law. The judge of the State Court of Ware County shall receive an  
16 annual salary in the amount of \$40,000.00 or such larger amount as may from time to time  
17 be provided for in general state law. Said compensation shall be paid in equal monthly  
18 installments from funds of Ware County. All increases that have occurred to the salary of  
19 the solicitor-general and judge from January 1, 2000, until the effective date of this section  
20 shall remain payable to the solicitor-general and judge in office on the effective date of this  
21 section.

22 (b) At any time Ware County contracts to provide court related professional services to a  
23 municipality, the salary of the solicitor-general of the State Court of Ware County and the  
24 salary of the judge of the State Court of Ware County shall be increased by an amount

1 equal to the respective amounts received by Ware County for the provision of a prosecutor  
2 and a judge to such municipality.

3 (c) The salary of the judge and the solicitor-general of the State Court of Ware County  
4 shall be increased in the same percentage and at the same time as provided for clerks of the  
5 superior courts in subsection (a) of Code Section 15-6-90 of the O.C.G.A. In addition,  
6 whenever the employees in the classified service of the state merit system receive a  
7 cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase of a certain percentage or a  
8 certain amount, the amounts fixed as the salary of such judge and solicitor-general by  
9 subsection (a) of this section or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts  
10 through the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (a) of Code Section  
11 15-6-90 of the O.C.G.A., where applicable, shall be increased by the same percentage or  
12 same amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living increase or general  
13 performance based increase received by state employees is in different percentages or  
14 different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed as the salary  
15 fixed for such judge and such solicitor-general, or the amounts derived through the  
16 application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to  
17 exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted  
18 to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget may be consulted in order for  
19 the county to calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when  
20 necessary. The periodic changes in the amounts fixed as the salary fixed for such judge  
21 and such solicitor-general, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity  
22 increases, as authorized by this subsection shall become effective on the first day of  
23 January following the date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based  
24 increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that, if the  
25 cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such  
26 periodic changes in the amounts fixed as salary fixed for such judge and such  
27 solicitor-general, respectively, of such state court, or the amounts derived by increasing  
28 each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases, shall become effective  
29 on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases  
30 received by state employees become effective."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 This Act shall become effective on April 1, 2004.

33 **SECTION 3.**

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