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Senate Bill 462

By: Senators Carter of the 13th, Kemp of the 46th, Hamrick of the 30th, Mullis of the 53rd and Miles of the 43rd

## AS PASSED SENATE

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- 1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 16 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
- 2 relating to general provisions for sheriffs, so as to place courthouse security under the
- 3 authority of the sheriff; to require a courthouse security plan which shall be subject to the
- 4 approval of the chief superior court judge; to amend Chapter 9 of Title 36 of the Official
- 5 Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county property generally, so as to remove
- 6 courthouses and jails from the list of properties protected; to provide for related matters; to
- 7 provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.** 

- 10 Article 1 of Chapter 16 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
- general provisions for sheriffs, is amended in Code Section 15-16-10, relating to duties of
- sheriffs and electronic storage, by striking "and" from the end of paragraph (8), by striking
- 13 the period and inserting in its place "; and" at the end of paragraph (9), and by inserting a
- 14 new paragraph (10) of subsection (a) to read as follows:
- 15 "(10) To develop and implement a comprehensive plan for the security of the county
- 16 courthouse and any courthouse annex. Prior to the implementation of any security plan,
- the plan shall be submitted for review by the chief judge of the superior court of the
- circuit wherein the courthouse or annex is located. The security plan may be accepted
- or modified by order of the superior court."
- 20 SECTION 2.
- 21 Chapter 9 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county property
- 22 generally, is amended by striking Code Section 36-9-8, relating to the protection of county
- property by the sheriff, in its entirety and inserting in its place a new Code Section 36-9-8
- 24 to read as follows:

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- 1 "36-9-8.
- 2 The <del>courthouses, jails,</del> public grounds, and other county property are placed in the keeping
- of the sheriff of the county, subject to the order of the county governing authority; and it
- 4 is his <u>or her</u> duty to preserve them from injury or waste and to prevent intrusions upon
- 5 them."

6 SECTION 3.

7 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2006.

8 SECTION 4.

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