

Senate Bill 450

By: Senators Kemp of the 46th, Wiles of the 37th, Seabaugh of the 28th, Mullis of the 53rd, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th and others

**AS PASSED**

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts; Chapter 2  
2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and elections  
3 generally; Chapter 5 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
4 organization of county government; Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
5 relating to public officers and employees; and Chapter 5 of Title 48 of the Official Code of  
6 Georgia Annotated, relating to ad valorem taxation of property, so as to revise the pay  
7 structure for certain county officers and officials; to revise the minimum salary schedules of  
8 pay for sheriffs, tax commissioners, clerks of superior court, magistrates, and judges of  
9 probate court; to provide for longevity pay increases for certain members of county  
10 governing authorities; to increase the investigation fee for coroners; to provide for the  
11 recalculation of minimum salaries in any year in which the Department of Community  
12 Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county that is higher than the preceding decennial  
13 census; to provide for legislative intent; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
14 laws; and for other purposes.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

16 **SECTION 1.**

17 Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, is amended by striking  
18 Code Section 15-6-88, relating to minimum annual salary schedule for clerks of superior  
19 court, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 15-6-88 to read as follows:

20 "15-6-88.

21 (a) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual salary  
22 of each clerk of the superior court in each county of this state shall be fixed according to  
23 the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States  
24 decennial census of ~~1990~~ 2000 or any future such census; provided, however, that such  
25 annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the  
26 Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to

July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, each such clerk shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of the county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>
0 - 5,999	\$ <del>26,433.73</del> <u>29,832.20</u>
6,000 - 11,889	<del>36,300.86</del> <u>40,967.92</u>
11,890 - 19,999	<del>41,121.55</del> <u>46,408.38</u>
20,000 - 28,999	<del>44,057.42</del> <u>49,721.70</u>
29,000 - 38,999	<del>46,993.29</del> <u>53,035.03</u>
39,000 - 49,999	<del>49,932.80</del> <u>56,352.46</u>
50,000 - 74,999	<del>52,871.09</del> <u>63,164.60</u>
75,000 - 99,999	<del>54,338.42</del> <u>67,800.09</u>
100,000 - 149,999	<del>55,806.96</del> <u>72,434.13</u>
150,000 - 199,999	<del>57,275.49</del> <u>77,344.56</u>
200,000 - 249,999	<del>58,744.04</del> <u>84,458.82</u>
250,000 - 299,999	<del>81,238.19</del> <u>91,682.66</u>
300,000 - 399,999	<del>89,678.05</del> <u>101,207.60</u>
400,000 - 499,999	<del>93,319.06</del> <u>105,316.72</u>
500,000 or more	<del>96,960.07</del> <u>109,425.84</u>

(b) On and after July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, whenever the employees in the classified service of the state merit system receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code Section 15-6-89, and in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (a) of Code Section 15-6-90, where applicable shall be increased by the same percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase received by state employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code Section 15-6-89, and in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. The periodic changes in the amounts

1 fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code  
 2 Section 15-6-89, in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived  
 3 through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this subsection shall  
 4 become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living  
 5 increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become  
 6 effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases received by state  
 7 employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in  
 8 the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code Section  
 9 15-6-89, and in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived by  
 10 increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to  
 11 subsection (a) of Code Section 15-6-90, shall become effective on the same date that the  
 12 cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state  
 13 employees become effective.

14 (c) This Code section shall not be construed to reduce the salary of any clerk of the  
 15 superior court in office on July 1, 1991; provided, however, that successors to such clerks  
 16 in office on July 1, 1991, shall be governed by the provisions of subsections (a) and (b) of  
 17 this Code section.

18 (d) The county governing authority may supplement the minimum annual salary of the  
 19 clerk of the superior court in such amount as it may fix from time to time; but no clerk's  
 20 compensation supplement shall be decreased during any term of office. Any prior  
 21 expenditure of county funds to supplement the clerk's salary in the manner authorized by  
 22 this subsection is ratified and confirmed. Nothing contained in this subsection shall  
 23 prohibit the General Assembly by local law from supplementing the annual salary of the  
 24 clerk."

## 25 SECTION 2.

26 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 15-6-89, relating to additional  
 27 remuneration for certain services for clerks of superior court, and inserting in lieu thereof a  
 28 new Code Section 15-6-89 to read as follows:

29 "15-6-89.

30 In addition to the minimum salary provided in Code Section 15-6-88 or any other salary  
 31 provided by any applicable general or local law, each clerk of the superior court of any  
 32 county who also serves as clerk of a state court, city court, juvenile court, or civil court  
 33 under any applicable general or local law of this state or who performs duties pursuant to  
 34 paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section 15-12-1 shall receive for his or her services  
 35 in such other court a salary of not less than ~~\$286.73~~ 323.59 per month, to be paid from the  
 36 funds of the county. In the event any such court for which a clerk of the superior court is

1 serving as clerk is abolished, the clerk of the superior court shall not be entitled to any  
2 salary heretofore received for service in such court."

3 **SECTION 3.**

4 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 15-9-63, relating to schedule of  
5 minimum salaries of judges of the probate court, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code  
6 Section 15-9-63 to read as follows:

7 "15-9-63.

8 (a)(1) Any other laws to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual salary of  
9 each judge of the probate court in this state shall be fixed according to the population of  
10 the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States decennial census  
11 of ~~1990~~ 2000 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall  
12 be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of  
13 Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year  
14 that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Each such judge of the  
15 probate court shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from  
16 the funds of his or her county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>
18 0 - 5,999 .....	\$ <del>24,893.57</del> <u>29,832.20</u>
19 6,000 - 11,889 .....	<del>32,869.82</del> <u>40,967.92</u>
20 11,890 - 19,999 .....	<del>36,512.04</del> <u>46,408.38</u>
21 20,000 - 28,999 .....	<del>40,336.31</del> <u>49,721.70</u>
22 29,000 - 38,999 .....	<del>44,625.42</del> <u>53,035.03</u>
23 39,000 - 49,999 .....	<del>47,069.75</del> <u>56,352.46</u>
24 50,000 - 74,999 .....	<del>50,654.92</del> <u>63,164.60</u>
25 75,000 - 99,999 .....	<del>55,796.04</del> <u>67,800.09</u>
26 100,000 - 149,999 .....	<del>60,938.35</del> <u>72,434.13</u>
27 150,000 - 199,999 .....	<del>67,887.82</del> <u>77,344.56</u>
28 200,000 - 249,999 .....	<del>74,837.29</del> <u>84,458.82</u>
29 250,000 - 299,999 .....	<del>78,202.80</del> <u>91,682.66</u>
30 300,000 - 399,999 .....	<del>81,569.52</del> <u>101,207.60</u>
31 400,000 - 499,999 .....	<del>82,210.53</del> <u>105,316.72</u>
32 500,000 or more .....	<del>88,851.53</del> <u>109,425.84</u>

33 (2) On and after July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, whenever the employees in the classified service of  
34 the state merit system receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based  
35 increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum

1 salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the  
2 amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity  
3 increases pursuant to Code Section 15-9-65, where applicable, shall be increased by the  
4 same percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living  
5 increase or general performance based increase received by state employees is in different  
6 percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed  
7 in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section  
8 15-9-64, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be  
9 increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average  
10 amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of  
11 Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount  
12 increase when necessary. The periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum  
13 salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the  
14 amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this  
15 paragraph shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the  
16 cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state  
17 employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases  
18 received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the  
19 amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection and in  
20 Code Section 15-9-64, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts  
21 through the application of longevity increases pursuant to Code Section 15-9-65, where  
22 applicable, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the same date that  
23 the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state  
24 employees become effective.

25 (3) The county governing authority may supplement the minimum annual salary of the  
26 judge of the probate court in such amount as it may fix from time to time; but no probate  
27 judge's compensation supplement shall be decreased during any term of office. Any  
28 prior expenditure of county funds to supplement the probate judge's salary in the manner  
29 authorized by this paragraph is ratified and confirmed. Nothing contained in this  
30 paragraph shall prohibit the General Assembly by local law from supplementing the  
31 annual salary of the probate judge.

32 (b) In any county in which more than 70 percent of the population of the county according  
33 to the United States decennial census of 1990 or any future such census resides on property  
34 of the United States government which is exempt from taxation by this state, the population  
35 of the county for purposes of subsection (a) of this Code section shall be deemed to be the  
36 total population of the county minus the population of the county which resides on property  
37 of the United States government."



1 month. The amount of the minimum salary provided in Code Section 15-9-63 for the  
2 judges of the probate courts on a salary who are responsible for traffic cases under any  
3 general or local law of this state shall also be increased by ~~\$358.34~~ 404.41 per month."

4 **SECTION 6.**

5 Said title is further amended by striking paragraphs (2), (4), and (5) of subsection (a) and the  
6 entirety of subsection (c) of Code Section 15-10-23, relating to minimum compensation and  
7 annual salary of magistrates, and inserting in lieu thereof new paragraphs (2), (4), and (5) and  
8 a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

9 "(2) Unless otherwise provided by local law, effective January 1, ~~2002~~ 2006, the chief  
10 magistrate of each county who serves in a full-time capacity other than those counties  
11 where the probate judge serves as chief magistrate shall receive a minimum annual salary  
12 of the amount fixed in the following schedule:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>
14 0 - 5,999 .....	\$ <del>24,893.57</del> <u>29,832.20</u>
15 6,000 - 11,889 .....	<del>32,869.82</del> <u>40,967.92</u>
16 11,890 - 19,999 .....	<del>36,512.04</del> <u>46,408.38</u>
17 20,000 - 28,999 .....	<del>40,336.31</del> <u>49,721.70</u>
18 29,000 - 38,999 .....	<del>44,625.42</del> <u>53,035.03</u>
19 39,000 - 49,999 .....	<del>47,069.75</del> <u>56,352.46</u>
20 50,000 - 74,999 .....	<del>50,654.92</del> <u>63,164.60</u>
21 75,000 - 99,999 .....	<del>55,796.04</del> <u>67,800.09</u>
22 100,000 - 149,999 .....	<del>60,938.35</del> <u>72,434.13</u>
23 150,000 - 199,999 .....	<del>67,887.82</del> <u>77,344.56</u>
24 200,000 - 249,999 .....	<del>74,837.29</del> <u>84,458.82</u>
25 250,000 - 299,999 .....	<del>78,202.80</del> <u>91,682.66</u>
26 300,000 - 399,999 .....	<del>81,569.52</del> <u>101,207.60</u>
27 400,000 - 499,999 .....	<del>85,210.53</del> <u>105,316.72</u>
28 500,000 or more .....	<del>88,851.53</del> <u>109,425.84</u>

29 The minimum salary for each affected chief magistrate shall be fixed from the table in  
30 this subsection according to the population of the county in which the chief magistrate  
31 serves as determined by the United States decennial census of ~~1990~~ 2000 or any future  
32 such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year  
33 following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a  
34 census estimate for the county prior to July 1 that is higher than the immediately  
35 preceding decennial census. Notwithstanding the provisions of this subsection, unless

1 otherwise provided by local law, effective January 1, 1996, in any county in which more  
 2 than 70 percent of the population according to the United States decennial census of 1990  
 3 or any future such census resides on property of the United States government which is  
 4 exempt from taxation by this state, the population of the county for purposes of this  
 5 subsection shall be deemed to be the total population of the county minus the population  
 6 of the county which resides on property of the United States government."

7 "(4) Unless otherwise provided by local law, each magistrate who serves in a full-time  
 8 capacity other than the chief magistrate shall receive a minimum monthly salary of  
 9 ~~\$3,412.84~~ \$3,851.46 per month or 90 percent of the monthly salary that a full-time chief  
 10 magistrate would receive according to paragraph (2) of this subsection, whichever is less.

11 (5) All magistrates other than chief magistrates who serve in less than a full-time  
 12 capacity or on call shall receive a minimum monthly salary of the lesser of ~~\$19.69~~ \$22.22  
 13 per hour for each hour worked as certified by the chief magistrate to the county governing  
 14 authority or 90 percent of the monthly salary that a full-time chief magistrate would  
 15 receive according to paragraph (2) of this subsection; provided, however, that  
 16 notwithstanding any other provisions of this subsection, no magistrate who serves in less  
 17 than a full-time capacity shall receive a minimum monthly salary of less than ~~\$525.08~~  
 18 \$592.58."

19 "(c) On and after July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, whenever the employees in the classified service of  
 20 the state merit system receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based  
 21 increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts provided in subsection (a)  
 22 of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of  
 23 Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases pursuant  
 24 to subsection (b) of this Code section, shall be increased by the same percentage or same  
 25 amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living increase or general  
 26 performance based increase received by state employees is in different percentages or  
 27 different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts provided in subsection  
 28 (a) of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d)  
 29 of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases  
 30 pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, shall be increased by a percentage or an  
 31 amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in  
 32 salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate  
 33 the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. The periodic  
 34 changes in the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the  
 35 supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased  
 36 by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section,  
 37 as authorized by this subsection, shall become effective on the first day of January



1 following the date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases  
 2 received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living  
 3 increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic  
 4 changes in the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the  
 5 supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased  
 6 by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section,  
 7 as authorized by this subsection, shall become effective on the same date that the  
 8 cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state  
 9 employees become effective."

#### 10 SECTION 7.

11 Said title is further amended by striking subsections (b), (c), and (d) of Code Section  
 12 15-10-105, relating to selection of clerk of magistrate court and compensation, and inserting  
 13 in lieu thereof new subsections (b), (c), and (d) to read as follows:

14 "(b) With the consent of the clerk of superior court the county governing authority may  
 15 provide that the clerk of superior court shall serve as clerk of magistrate court and shall be  
 16 compensated for his or her services as clerk of magistrate court in an amount not less than  
 17 ~~\$286.73~~ \$323.59 per month. With the consent of the clerk of the superior court and clerk  
 18 of the state court, the county governing authority may provide that the state court clerk  
 19 shall serve as clerk of magistrate court and shall be compensated for his or her service as  
 20 clerk of magistrate court in an amount not less than ~~\$286.73~~ \$323.59 per month. Such  
 21 compensation shall be retained by the clerk of superior court as his or her personal funds  
 22 without regard to whether he or she is otherwise compensated on a fee basis or salary basis  
 23 or both.

24 (c) If the clerk of superior court or the clerk of state court does not serve as clerk of  
 25 magistrate court, then the county governing authority may provide for the appointment by  
 26 the chief magistrate of a clerk to serve at the pleasure of the chief magistrate. A clerk of  
 27 magistrate court so appointed shall be compensated in an amount fixed by the county  
 28 governing authority at not less than ~~\$286.73~~ \$323.59 per month.

29 (d) If there is no clerk of magistrate court, the chief magistrate or some other magistrate  
 30 appointed by the chief magistrate shall perform the duties of clerk. A chief magistrate  
 31 performing the duties of clerk, or another magistrate appointed by the chief magistrate to  
 32 perform the duties of clerk, shall receive, in addition to any other compensation to which  
 33 he or she is entitled, compensation for performing the duties of clerk, the amount of which  
 34 compensation shall be fixed by the county governing authority at not less than ~~\$286.73~~  
 35 \$323.59 per month."

**SECTION 8.**

Said title is further amended by striking subsection (a) of Code Section 15-16-20, relating to minimum annual salaries for sheriffs, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

"(a)(1) Any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual salary of each sheriff in this state shall be fixed according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States decennial census of ~~1990~~ 2000 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each such sheriff shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of the sheriff's county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>
0 - 5,999	\$ <del>37,256.02</del> <u>42,045.88</u>
6,000 - 11,889	<del>41,573.04</del> <u>46,917.92</u>
11,890 - 19,999	<del>47,742.11</del> <u>53,880.12</u>
20,000 - 28,999	<del>52,570.10</del> <u>59,328.83</u>
29,000 - 38,999	<del>57,396.87</del> <u>64,776.16</u>
39,000 - 49,999	<del>62,227.28</del> <u>70,227.59</u>
50,000 - 74,999	<del>67,054.03</del> <u>75,674.90</u>
75,000 - 99,999	<del>69,333.30</del> <u>78,247.21</u>
100,000 - 149,999	<del>71,612.57</del> <u>80,819.51</u>
150,000 - 199,999	<del>74,161.29</del> <u>83,695.91</u>
200,000 - 249,999	<del>76,710.00</del> <u>86,572.30</u>
250,000 - 299,999	<del>83,964.09</del> <u>94,759.02</u>
300,000 - 399,999	<del>93,766.90</del> <u>105,822.14</u>
400,000 - 499,999	<del>97,407.90</del> <u>109,931.24</u>
500,000 or more	<del>101,048.91</del> <u>114,040.36</u>

(2) On and after July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, whenever the employees in the classified service of the state merit system receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, where applicable, shall be

1 increased by the same percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees.  
 2 If the cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase received by state  
 3 employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of  
 4 employees, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this  
 5 subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived through the  
 6 application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not  
 7 to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary  
 8 granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the  
 9 average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. The periodic  
 10 changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this  
 11 subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived through the  
 12 application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective  
 13 on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases received by  
 14 state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases  
 15 or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective on  
 16 January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule  
 17 in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts  
 18 derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph  
 19 shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general  
 20 performance based increases received by state employees become effective.

21 (3) The county governing authority may supplement the minimum annual salary of the  
 22 sheriff in such amount as it may fix from time to time; but no sheriff's compensation  
 23 supplement shall be decreased during any term of office. Any prior expenditure of  
 24 county funds to supplement the sheriff's salary in the manner authorized by this  
 25 paragraph is ratified and confirmed. Nothing contained in this paragraph shall prohibit  
 26 the General Assembly by local law from supplementing the annual salary of the sheriff."

#### 27 **SECTION 9.**

28 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 15-16-20.1, relating to additional  
 29 salary for sheriffs, and inserting in lieu thereof a new Code Section 15-16-20.1 to read as  
 30 follows:

31 "15-16-20.1.

32 In addition to the minimum salary provided in Code Section 15-16-20, the sheriff of any  
 33 county who performs the duties of a sheriff for a state court, probate court, magistrate  
 34 court, juvenile court, or county recorder's court under any applicable general or local law  
 35 of this state shall receive for his or her services in such court or courts a salary of not less

1 than ~~\$286.73~~ 323.59 per month, to be paid from the funds of the county. A sheriff who  
 2 serves in more than one such court shall receive only one such salary."

### 3 **SECTION 10.**

4 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to primaries and  
 5 elections generally, is amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, relating  
 6 to county deputy registrars, clerical help, and appointment of county officer or employee as  
 7 chief deputy registrar, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (c) to read as follows:

8 "(c) In every county wherein the registrars do not maintain an office which is open and  
 9 staffed during regular business hours, the registrars shall designate and appoint as chief  
 10 deputy registrar a full-time county officer or employee for the purpose of registering  
 11 eligible electors and performing other duties as may be required by the board of registrars.  
 12 The governing authority of the county shall provide for the compensation of the chief  
 13 deputy registrar in an amount not less than ~~\$259.88~~ 293.29 per month. The name, business  
 14 address, telephone number, and any other pertinent information relative to the chief deputy  
 15 registrar shall be forwarded by the registrars to the Secretary of State's office, where such  
 16 information shall be maintained on file."

### 17 **SECTION 11.**

18 Chapter 5 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to organization of  
 19 county government, is amended by adding a new Code Section 36-5-29 to read as follows:

20 "36-5-29.

21 (a) Compensation to which a member of a county governing authority is entitled under  
 22 general or local law, including amounts provided for in Code Sections 36-5-27 and 36-5-28  
 23 shall be increased by multiplying said amounts by the percentage which equals 2.5 percent  
 24 times the number of completed, four-year terms of office served by such member of a  
 25 county governing authority where such terms have been completed after December 31,  
 26 2004, effective the first day of January following the completion of each such period of  
 27 service.

28 (b) For a member of a county governing authority elected to two-year terms of office or  
 29 six-year terms of office, the percentage increase provided for in subsection (a) of this Code  
 30 section shall be 1.25 percent times the number of completed two-year terms or 3.75 percent  
 31 times the number of completed six-year terms as applicable."



SECTION 14.

Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (b) of Code Section 48-5-183, relating to salaries of tax collectors and tax commissioners, and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b)(1) Any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, except for the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, the minimum annual salary of each tax collector and tax commissioner who is compensated by an annual salary shall be fixed according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States decennial census of ~~1990~~ 2000 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Each such officer shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of his or her county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

<u>Population</u>	<u>Minimum Salary</u>
0 - 5,999 .....	\$ <del>26,336.77</del> <u>29,832.20</u>
6,000 - 11,889 .....	<del>32,909.17</del> <u>40,967.92</u>
11,890 - 19,999 .....	<del>37,100.42</del> <u>46,408.38</u>
20,000 - 28,999 .....	<del>39,509.07</del> <u>49,721.70</u>
29,000 - 38,999 .....	<del>42,795.28</del> <u>53,035.03</u>
39,000 - 49,999 .....	<del>47,723.93</del> <u>56,352.46</u>
50,000 - 74,999 .....	<del>55,968.90</del> <u>63,164.60</u>
75,000 - 99,999 .....	<del>60,076.32</del> <u>67,800.09</u>
100,000 - 149,999 .....	<del>64,182.45</del> <u>72,434.13</u>
150,000 - 199,999 .....	<del>68,533.49</del> <u>77,344.56</u>
200,000 - 249,999 .....	<del>72,884.53</del> <u>84,458.82</u>
250,000 - 299,999 .....	<del>78,602.96</del> <u>91,682.66</u>
300,000 - 399,999 .....	<del>84,321.40</del> <u>101,207.60</u>
400,000 - 499,999 .....	<del>88,250.70</del> <u>105,316.72</u>
500,000 or more .....	<del>92,179.99</del> <u>109,425.84</u>

(2) On and after July 1, ~~2001~~ 2006, whenever the employees in the classified service of the state merit system receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity

1 increases pursuant to subsection (d) of this Code section, where applicable shall be  
 2 increased by the same percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees.  
 3 If the cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase received by state  
 4 employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of  
 5 employees, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this  
 6 subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in  
 7 subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through the application  
 8 of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the  
 9 average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the  
 10 state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average  
 11 percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. The periodic changes  
 12 in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection,  
 13 in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c) of  
 14 Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity  
 15 increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the first day of  
 16 January following the date that the cost-of-living increases received by state employees  
 17 become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases or general  
 18 performance based increases received by state employees become effective on January 1,  
 19 such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in  
 20 paragraph (1) of this subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where  
 21 applicable, in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through  
 22 the application of longevity increases as authorized by this paragraph, shall become  
 23 effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based  
 24 increases received by state employees become effective.

25 (3) The county governing authority may supplement the minimum annual salary of the  
 26 tax commissioner in such amount as it may fix from time to time; but no tax  
 27 commissioner's compensation supplement shall be decreased during any term of office.  
 28 Any prior expenditure of county funds to supplement the tax commissioner's salary in  
 29 the manner authorized by this paragraph is ratified and confirmed. Nothing contained in  
 30 this paragraph shall prohibit the General Assembly by local law from supplementing the  
 31 annual salary of the tax commissioner."

### 32 **SECTION 15.**

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