

House Bill 71

By: Representatives Day of the 163rd, Horne of the 71st, and Neal of the 1st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 36-20-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 training of elected members of county governing authorities, so as to require elected
3 members of a county governing authority to satisfactorily complete a course of training on
4 comprehensive emergency preparedness and response; to amend Code Section 36-45-4 of
5 the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of elected members of
6 municipal governing authorities, so as to require elected members of a municipal governing
7 authority to satisfactorily complete a course of training on comprehensive emergency
8 preparedness and response; to amend Code Section 38-3-22.1, relating to training and
9 technical assistance offered by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for plans
10 addressing threats of terrorism, so as to require the Georgia Emergency Management Agency
11 to provide a course of instruction on comprehensive emergency preparedness and response
12 to newly elected members of county and municipal authorities; to provide definitions; to
13 provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

15 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

16 Code Section 36-20-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of
17 elected members of county governing authorities, is amended by redesignating subsection
18 (b) as subsection (c) and inserting a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

19 "(b) In addition to the training requirements found in subsection (a) of this Code section,
20 all persons elected as members of a county governing authority shall enroll in, attend, and
21 satisfactorily complete a course of training and instruction of at least 16 hours on matters
22 pertaining to comprehensive emergency preparedness and response. Such course of
23 training and instruction shall include, but not be limited to, local response to a natural or
24 manmade disaster, pandemic, or epidemic, crisis response team development, site surveys
25 and safety audits, crisis management planning, exercise design, safe school planning,
26 emergency operations planning, bomb threat management, model safety plans, and such

1 other matters as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the Georgia Emergency
2 Management Agency. The course of instruction shall be approved and made available by
3 the Georgia Emergency Management Agency through and in cooperation with the Georgia
4 County Leadership Academy."

5 **SECTION 2.**

6 Code Section 36-45-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the training of
7 elected members of municipal county governing authorities, is amended by redesignating
8 subsection (b) as subsection (c) and inserting a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

9 "(b) In addition to the training requirements found in subsection (a) of this Code section,
10 all persons elected as members of a municipal governing authority shall enroll in, attend,
11 and satisfactorily complete a course of training and instruction of at least 16 hours on
12 matters pertaining to comprehensive emergency preparedness and response. Such course
13 of training and instruction shall include, but not be limited to, local response to a natural
14 or manmade disaster, pandemic, or epidemic, crisis response team development, site
15 surveys and safety audits, crisis management planning, exercise design, safe school
16 planning, emergency operations planning, bomb threat management, model safety plans,
17 and such other matters as may be deemed necessary and appropriate by the Georgia
18 Emergency Management Agency. The course of instruction shall be approved and made
19 available by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency through and in cooperation with
20 the Harold F. Holtz Municipal Training Institute."

21 **SECTION 3.**

22 Code Section 38-3-22.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to training and
23 technical assistance offered by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency for plans
24 addressing threats of terrorism, is amended by redesignating subsection (d) as subsection (e)
25 and inserting a new subsection (d) to read as follows:

26 "(d) The Georgia Emergency Management Agency shall provide 16 hours of initial
27 training and instruction to elected members of county and municipal authorities pertaining
28 to comprehensive emergency preparedness and response as required by Code Sections
29 36-20-4 and 36-45-4. Such emergency preparedness course shall include, but not be
30 limited to, preparing for local response to a natural or manmade disaster, pandemic, or
31 epidemic."

32 **SECTION 4.**

33 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2007.

- 1 **SECTION 5.**
- 2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.