

Senate Bill 223

By: Senator Smith of the 52nd

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT**

To amend Code Section 15-11-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to creation of juvenile courts, terms and compensation of judges, state grants for judicial salaries, qualifications, presiding judge, practice of law, actions by judges, administration, and expenditures, so as to change certain provisions relating to compensation of judges and grants for judicial salaries; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

**SECTION 1.**

Code Section 15-11-18 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to creation of juvenile courts, terms and compensation of judges, state grants for judicial salaries, qualifications, presiding judge, practice of law, actions by judges, administration, and expenditures, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (d) as follows:

"(2) The state, out of funds appropriated to the judicial branch of government, shall contribute toward the salary of the judges on a per circuit basis in the following amounts:

(A) Each circuit with one or more juvenile court judges who are not superior court judges assuming the duties of juvenile court judges shall receive a state grant of \$85,000.00;

(B) In addition to the base amount set out in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph, each circuit which on or after October 1, 2000, has more than four superior court judges shall be eligible for additional state grants. For each superior court judge who exceeds the base of four judges, the circuit shall be eligible for an additional grant in an amount equal to one-fourth of the base amount of the state grant set out in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph;

(C) In those circuits where the judge or judges of the superior court elect to use the state grant provided in this paragraph for one or more part-time judges, the amount of the state grant shall be as follows:

- 1 (i) For each part-time judge who works one day weekly . . . . . \$ 17,000.00  
 2 (ii) For each part-time judge who works two days weekly . . . . . 34,000.00  
 3 (iii) For each part-time judge who works three days weekly . . . . . 51,000.00  
 4 (iv) For each part-time judge who works four days weekly . . . . . 68,000.00;

5 provided, however, that a grant for one or more part-time judges shall not exceed the  
 6 amount the circuit is eligible for in accordance with subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this  
 7 paragraph;

8 (D)(i) The grants contributed by the state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B),  
 9 and (C) of this paragraph are intended to be minimum salaries for juvenile court  
 10 judges and are subject to being supplemented with county funds. In those circuits  
 11 where the county or counties choose to contribute additional funds toward the salary  
 12 of a judge that, in the aggregate, amount to at least 1 percent of the amount  
 13 contributed by the state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this  
 14 paragraph, the state, in addition to the grant contributed in accordance with  
 15 subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this paragraph, shall also contribute a  
 16 supplemental grant in an amount equal to 1 percent of the amount contributed by the  
 17 state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this paragraph; provided,  
 18 however, that such grants shall be cumulative of any amounts granted prior to  
 19 December 31, 2007.

20 (ii) The provisions of this subparagraph shall become effective on January 1, 2008,  
 21 and shall be repealed by operation of law effective at 11:59 P.M. on December 31,  
 22 2008 Reserved;

23 (E)(i) The grants contributed by the state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B),  
 24 and (C) of this paragraph are intended to be minimum salaries for juvenile court  
 25 judges and are subject to being supplemented with county funds. In those circuits  
 26 where the county or counties choose to contribute additional funds toward the salary  
 27 of a judge that, in the aggregate, amount to at least 1 percent of the amount  
 28 contributed by the state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this  
 29 paragraph, the state, in addition to the grant contributed in accordance with  
 30 subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this paragraph, shall also contribute a  
 31 supplemental grant in an amount equal to 1 percent of the amount contributed by the  
 32 state in accordance with subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of this paragraph; provided,  
 33 however, that such grants shall be cumulative of any amounts granted prior to  
 34 December 31, 2008.

(F) All state grants provided by this paragraph shall be spent solely on salaries for juvenile court judges and shall not be used for any other purposes."

This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2008.

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