

House Bill 586 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Ralston of the 7th and Fleming of the 117th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 and Code Section 17-12-127 of the Official
2 Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the general provisions of superior courts and
3 representation and appointment of alternative attorneys, respectively, so as to change certain
4 provisions relative to indigent defense costs; to specify costs not to be considered contingent
5 expenses; to change matters relating to appointment of counsel and attorneys' fees in capital
6 cases; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date and applicability; to repeal
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
11 general provisions of superior courts, is amended by revising Code Section 15-6-24 as
12 follows:

13 "15-6-24.

14 (a) Any contingent expenses incurred in holding any session of the superior court,
15 including lights, fuel, stationery, rent, publication of grand jury presentments when ordered
16 published, and similar items, such as taking down testimony in felony cases, etc., shall be
17 paid out of the county treasury of such county upon the certificate of the judge of the
18 superior court and without further order.

19 (b) Any costs incurred in providing defense services pursuant to Chapter 12 of Title 17,
20 the 'Georgia Indigent Defense Act of 2003,' for persons accused of crimes shall not be
21 considered contingent expenses of the superior court for purposes of this Code section."

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 Code Section 17-12-127 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
24 representation and appointment of alternative attorneys, is amended by revising subsection
25 (b) as follows:

