

The House Committee on Judiciary offers the following substitute to HB 195:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend Article 5 of Chapter 12 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to trial juries, so as to provide that members of an electric membership corporation may be competent to serve as a juror under certain circumstances in cases in which the electric membership corporation is a party or is interested; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Article 5 of Chapter 12 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to trial juries, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

"15-12-137.1.

A member of an electric membership corporation shall not be incompetent, based solely on such membership, to serve as a juror in a case in which the electric membership corporation is a party or is interested; provided, however, that if the judge in such case finds that the nature of the case or that the circumstances surrounding a potential juror's membership in an electric membership corporation may cause a potential juror to have a bias or prejudice for or against the electric membership corporation in that case, the judge may grant a party's motion to disqualify such member for cause."

SECTION 2.

This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.