

House Bill 195 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Williams of the 178th, Ramsey of the 72nd, Levitas of the 82nd, Maddox of the 127th, Sheldon of the 105th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

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

10 "15-12-137.1.

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

18 **SECTION 2.**

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

21 **SECTION 3.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.