

Senate Bill 199

By: Senators Wiles of the 37th, Harp of the 29th and Cowser of the 46th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, so as to
2 suspend for one year the otherwise required annual training for magistrates and probate
3 judges; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws;
4 and for other purposes.

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

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, is amended in Code
8 Section 15-9-1.1, relating to training requirements for probate judges, by revising subsection
9 (c) as follows:

10 "(c)(1) Each judge of the probate court shall be required to complete additional training
11 prescribed by the Probate Judges Training Council and the Institute of Continuing
12 Judicial Education of Georgia during each year he or she serves as a judge of the probate
13 court after the initial year of training and shall file a certificate of such additional training
14 issued by the Institute of Continuing Judicial Education of Georgia with the Probate
15 Judges Training Council.

16 (2) For the calendar years 2009 and 2010 only, the requirements of this subsection shall
17 be suspended, and no ongoing annual training shall be required. If any probate judge has
18 completed all or a portion of such training prior to the effective date of this paragraph,
19 credit for the training so completed shall be carried over and applied to calendar year
20 2010 or 2011."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 Said title is further amended in Code Section 15-10-137, relating to training requirements for
23 magistrates, by revising subsection (c) as follows:

24 "(c)(1) In order to maintain the status of a certified magistrate judge, each person
25 certified as such shall complete 20 hours of additional training per annum during each

26 calendar year after the year of his or her initial certification in which he or she serves as
27 a magistrate judge.

28 (2) For the calendar years 2009 and 2010 only, the requirements of this subsection shall
29 be suspended, and no ongoing annual training shall be required. If any magistrate has
30 completed all or a portion of such training prior to the effective date of this paragraph,
31 credit for the training so completed shall be carried over and applied to calendar year
32 2010 or 2011."

33 **SECTION 3.**

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

36 **SECTION 4.**

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