



DEPARTMENT OF AUDITS AND ACCOUNTS

270 Washington Street, S.W., Suite 1-156
Atlanta, Georgia 30334-8400

Russell W. Hinton
State Auditor
(404) 656-2174

April 1, 2009

The Honorable Bill Heath State Senator
State Capitol, Room 109
Atlanta, Georgia 30334

SUBJECT: State Auditor's Certification
Amendment to HB 487
(LC 21 0457S)
As Amended (AM 21 3664)

Dear Chairman Heath:

As amended, this bill would revise provisions relating to employee contributions under the Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund. Specifically, this bill would increase the amount of employee contributions paid by persons who first or again become members of the Fund on or after September 1, 2009. If this legislation is enacted, these persons would be required to pay \$100 per month into the Fund. Currently, the employee contribution rate is \$50 per month.

Additionally, this bill would amend provisions relating to the collection of fines and fees under the Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund. If this legislation is enacted, the Board would collect \$2.00 for each criminal or quasi-criminal case for violation of state law if the case is tried in a court in which the clerk is eligible for membership in the Fund. Currently, the fee collected by the Fund is \$1.75 per case. Furthermore, this bill would require \$1.00 to be paid to the Superior Court Clerks' Retirement Fund from fees charged and collected in each civil suit, action, case, or proceeding filed in the Superior Courts or in any other court of this State in which the clerk is eligible for membership in the Fund.

Letter to Senator Bill Heath

House Bill 457 (LC 21 0457S) As Amended (AM 21 3664)

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The proposed amendment (AM 21 3664) would revise provisions relating to revenues collected under the Peace Officers' Annuity and Benefit Fund. Effective July 1, 2008, persons employed by the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners as investigators became eligible to participate in the Fund. If this amendment is enacted, the Composite State Board of Medical Examiners would be required to pay an employer contribution for each of its employees who elect membership in the Fund. The Board would be required to pay the full actuarial cost of the member's participation as calculated by the actuary for the Fund. Currently, the employer contribution for such members is funded through the fines, fees, and bond forfeitures.

This is to certify that this amendment (AM 21 3664) is a nonfiscal amendment as defined in the Public Retirement Systems Standards Law.

Respectfully,

/s/ Russell W. Hinton
State Auditor

RWH/cs