

Senate Bill 230

By: Senator Williams of the 19th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 16-14-7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 forfeiture proceedings, so as to change certain provisions relating to the interest of an  
3 innocent owner; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
4 purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 16-14-7 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to forfeiture  
8 proceedings, is amended by revising subsection (j) as follows:

9 "(j) The interest of an innocent party in the property shall not be subject to forfeiture. An  
10 innocent party is one who did not have actual or constructive knowledge that the property  
11 was subject to forfeiture. A lienholder, mortgage holder, or landlord's interest in the  
12 property shall not be subject to forfeiture unless it is proven by a preponderance of the  
13 evidence that such holder or landlord participated in a pattern of racketeering."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.