

The House Committee on Judiciary Non-civil offers the following substitute to HR 977:

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to authorize the General Assembly to
 2 provide by law for dedication of certain existing fees and assessments for the purpose of
 3 funding legal services for indigent persons accused of crimes and delinquent acts; to provide
 4 that such funds shall not be subject to lapse; to provide for the submission of this amendment
 5 for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

6 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article III, Section IX, Paragraph VI of the Constitution is amended by adding a new
 9 subparagraph (o) to read as follows:

10 "(o) The General Assembly may provide by general law that certain existing fees and
 11 assessments be dedicated for the purpose of funding legal services for indigent persons
 12 accused of crimes and delinquent acts. Revenues dedicated pursuant to this subparagraph
 13 shall not lapse as required by Article III, Section IX, Paragraph IV(c) and shall not be
 14 subject to the limitations of subparagraph (a) of this Paragraph or of Article VII, Section
 15 III, Paragraph II."

16 **SECTION 2.**

17 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as
 18 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the
 19 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

20 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the General
 21 Assembly to provide by law that certain EXISTING fees and assessments be
 22 () NO dedicated for funding legal services for indigent persons accused of crimes and
 23 delinquent acts in compliance with the United States Constitution?"

24 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

25 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If

26 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall
27 become a part of the Constitution of this state.