

House Bill 989

By: Representatives Williams of the 165th, Thomas of the 100th, Gordon of the 162nd, Jones of the 44th, Hugley of the 133rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 5B of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 state accounting office, so as to direct the state accounting officer to pay state obligations to
3 vendors within a certain time period; to provide if such payments are not made within the
4 time specified, the state will owe interest equal to 12 percent per annum; to provide for
5 information from state agencies; to provide for promulgation of rules and regulations; to
6 provide for an effective date; to provide for applicability; to provide for related matters; to
7 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 5B of Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the state
11 accounting office, is amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

12 "50-5B-6.

13 (a) The state accounting officer shall pay or cause to make payment within 15 working
14 days of receipt of undisputed invoices filed electronically with this state. In the event an
15 undisputed invoice is presented in printed form, the state accounting officer shall pay or
16 cause to be paid such invoice within 30 calendar days.

17 (b) In the event that the undisputed invoices presented for payment to this state are not
18 paid as provided for in subsection (a) of this Code section, the state accounting officer shall
19 pay or cause to be paid interest on the amount of such invoice equal to 12 percent per
20 annum.

21 (c) In the event the accounting office determines that a bill or invoice contains a defect
22 making it unable to be paid within the time limitations provided in subsection (a) of this
23 Code section, a letter or electronic notice which states the reasons for failing to pay the
24 invoice, either in whole or part, and which also provides itemization of any documents or
25 other information needed to process the invoice or any portions thereof which are not being
26 paid shall be sent. When the state disputes a portion of an invoice, any undisputed portion

27 shall be paid by the state in accordance with this Code section. When all of the itemized
28 documents or other information needed to process the invoice have been received by the
29 state, the state shall have 15 working days for invoices filed electronically with the state
30 or 30 calendar days for invoices presented in printed form within which to process and
31 either remit payment for the invoice or send a letter stating the state's reason for not paying
32 the invoice in whole or in part.

33 (d) All organizations of state government and all officers, agents, and employees thereof
34 shall provide information to the state accounting officer as directed by the state accounting
35 officer, necessary to enable the performance of the functions required under this Code
36 section.

37 (e) The state accounting officer is authorized to adopt rules and regulations necessary to
38 implement the provisions of this Code section. The state accounting officer shall also
39 prescribe the manner and supervise the installation of any changes to the state accounting
40 systems for the purpose of implementing this Code section."

41 **SECTION 2.**

42 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2012, and shall apply with respect to all
43 undisputed invoices due on or after that date.

44 **SECTION 3.**

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