

House Bill 588

By: Representatives Parsons of the 44th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Golick of the 40th, Evans of the 42nd, Morgan of the 39th, and others

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend an Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff,
2 and the judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,
3 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act
4 approved May 1, 2007 (Ga. L. 2007, p. 4151), so as to change the compensation of the chief
5 deputy sheriff, the assistant chief deputy, and the executive assistant to the sheriff; to provide
6 for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
7 purposes.

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

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff, and the
11 judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,
12 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act
13 approved May 1, 2007 (Ga. L. 2007, p. 4151), is amended by striking subsections (b), (c),
14 and (d) of Section 5 and inserting in lieu thereof new subsections (b), (c), and (d) to read as
15 follows:

16 "(b) The sheriff of Cobb County shall have one chief deputy whose salary shall be
17 \$123,356.77 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb
18 County. The chief deputy sheriff shall possess the same qualifications for office as
19 required for the sheriff. The chief deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. Each
20 candidate for the office of sheriff of Cobb County shall, at the time he or she qualifies to
21 run for the office of sheriff, designate and certify to the judge of the probate court the name
22 of the person who shall be his or her chief deputy sheriff. In the event the office of sheriff
23 becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled until the
24 next general election by such chief deputy, who shall in such event enter upon the
25 performance of such duties upon taking the oath of office prescribed by law for the sheriff
26 of Cobb County. The chief deputy sheriff is authorized, when directed by the sheriff, to

27 discharge any and all of the duties and powers of the sheriff. In addition to such chief
28 deputy, the sheriff shall be authorized to name and appoint such additional deputies as shall
29 be approved from time to time by the governing authority of Cobb County. The salaries
30 of such additional deputies shall be set by the governing authority of Cobb County;
31 provided, however, that such salaries shall not be less than \$4,880.00 per annum per each
32 additional deputy approved by the governing authority of Cobb County. In addition to the
33 chief deputy and other deputies as provided for above, the sheriff of Cobb County shall be
34 authorized to employ the clerical help necessary to perform properly the functions and
35 duties of his or her office, provided that the number of employees and salaries or other
36 compensation to be paid to each shall first be approved by the governing authority of Cobb
37 County.

38 (c) In addition to those employees provided for by subsection (b) of this section, there is
39 created the office of assistant chief deputy sheriff for Cobb County. The assistant chief
40 deputy sheriff shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision
41 and control, and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The individual appointed by the
42 sheriff of Cobb County shall possess, as a minimum, a high school education or its
43 equivalent and shall either be a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National
44 Academy for Peace Officers, possess ten years of actual experience as a peace officer, be
45 a graduate of a law school accredited by the Georgia Bar Association, be a graduate of the
46 Southern Police Institute School of Police Management and Administration, or have a
47 master's degree from an accredited college or university. The salary of the assistant chief
48 deputy sheriff shall be \$111,928.78 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments
49 from the funds of Cobb County.

50 (d) In addition to those employees provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section,
51 there is created the position of executive assistant to the sheriff. The executive assistant
52 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,
53 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The sheriff shall establish such qualifications,
54 education, and experience as he or she deems necessary for the individual appointed to the
55 position of executive assistant. The salary of the executive assistant shall be \$67,277.99
56 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb County."

57 **SECTION 2.**

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

60 **SECTION 3.**

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