

House Bill 659

By: Representatives Pak of the 108th, Harrell of the 106th, Hawkins of the 27th, Taylor of the 79th, Weldon of the 3rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to conflicts of interest by public officers or employees, so as to provide that no
3 public funds shall be transferred by any public officer or employee to any individual or entity
4 for use in promoting or opposing the approval of any issue presented to the voters in this
5 state; to provide for penalties; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 2 of Chapter 10 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 conflicts of interest by public officers or employees, is amended by adding a new part to read
11 as follows:

12 "Part 7

13 45-10-100.

14 (a) As used in this Code section, the term 'public employee' means any person employed
15 by the state or any political subdivision of the state, including, but not limited to, all
16 agencies, authorities, bureaus, departments, offices, and commissions of the state or any
17 political subdivision of the state, including persons who are elected to public office in this
18 state.

19 (b) Before any public employee transfers any public funds to any individual, organization,
20 or entity, such employee shall obtain written reasonable assurance that no such funds shall
21 be used for promoting or opposing the approval of any issue presented to the voters in this
22 state.

23 (c) Any individual, organization, or entity that is found to have violated the provisions of
24 subsection (b) of this Code section shall be barred from receiving any public funds for not

25 less than one nor more than three years from the date of the determination that a violation
26 occurred. Any person that has evidence showing a possible violation of subsection (b) of
27 this Code section shall provide the evidence to the Attorney General for an investigation."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.