

House Bill 951

By: Representatives Gregory of the 34th, Spencer of the 180th, and Stover of the 71st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 8 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to conduct and argument of counsel relative to trial, so as to permit a certain
3 argument to the jury; to provide for a short title; to provide for related matters; to provide for
4 an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Fully Informed Jury Act of 2014."

8 **SECTION 2.**

9 Article 4 of Chapter 8 of Title 17 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 conduct and argument of counsel relative to trial, is amended by adding a new Code section
11 to read as follows:

12 "17-8-77.

13 In a criminal jury trial, upon request of the defendant or his or her counsel, the court shall
14 inform the jury of its role as the judges of the law and the facts pursuant to Article I,
15 Section I, Paragraph XI of the Constitution. The court shall permit the defendant or his or
16 her counsel to argue for jury nullification pursuant to the aforementioned constitutional
17 provision. No person shall be stricken from the traverse jury pool by the court based on
18 expression of support for jury nullification."

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
21 without such approval and shall apply to offenses which occur on or after that date.

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.