

Senate Bill 387

By: Senators Wilkinson of the 50th, Mullis of the 53rd, Harper of the 7th, Chance of the 16th and Murphy of the 27th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to the regulation of the practice of law, so as to provide that creation and distribution
3 of certain self-help legal documents is not unlawful if a disclaimer is provided; to provide
4 for a civil action for damages; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and
5 for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
9 regulation of the practice of law, is amended by adding new Code sections to read as follows:

10 "15-19-59.

11 The design, creation, assembly, completion, publication, distribution, display, or sale,
12 including by means of an Internet website, of self-help legal written materials, books,
13 documents, forms, computer software, or similar products shall not constitute a violation
14 of this article or give rise to a private cause of action pursuant to Code Section 15-19-60
15 if such products clearly and conspicuously state that they are not a substitute for the advice
16 of an attorney.

17 15-19-60.

18 Any person damaged by a violation of this article or a violation of the Supreme Court's
19 rules or opinions governing the unlicensed practice of law shall be entitled to maintain a
20 civil action to recover damages and reasonable attorney's fees."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.