

Senate Bill 425

By: Senators Tippins of the 37th, Hill of the 32nd, Hill of the 6th, Beach of the 21st and Thompson of the 14th

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**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 6, 2013 (Ga. L. 2013, p. 4150), so as to change the compensation of the chief  
5 deputy, the chief investigator, and the executive assistant to the sheriff; to provide for related  
6 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff, and the  
10 judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,  
11 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act  
12 approved May 6, 2013 (Ga. L. 2013, p. 4150), is amended by revising subsections (b), (c),  
13 and (d) of Section 5 as follows:

14 "(b) The sheriff of Cobb County shall have one chief deputy whose salary shall be  
15 \$127,057.47 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb  
16 County. The chief deputy sheriff shall possess the same qualifications for office as  
17 required for the sheriff. The chief deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. Each  
18 candidate for the office of sheriff of Cobb County shall, at the time he or she qualifies to  
19 run for the office of sheriff, designate and certify to the judge of the probate court the name  
20 of the person who shall be his or her chief deputy sheriff. In the event the office of sheriff  
21 becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled until the  
22 next general election by said chief deputy, who shall in such event enter upon the  
23 performance of said duties upon taking the oath of office prescribed by law for the sheriff  
24 of Cobb County. The chief deputy sheriff is authorized, when directed by the sheriff, to  
25 discharge any and all of the duties and powers of the sheriff. In addition to said chief  
26 deputy, said sheriff shall be authorized to name and appoint such additional deputies as

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

36 (c) In addition to those employees provided for by subsection (b) of this section, there is  
 37 created the office of chief investigator for Cobb County. The chief investigator shall be  
 38 appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control, and shall  
 39 serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The individual appointed by the sheriff of Cobb County  
 40 shall possess, at a minimum, a high school education or its equivalent and shall either be  
 41 a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy for Peace Officers  
 42 or possess ten years of actual experience as a peace officer or be a graduate of a law school  
 43 accredited by the Georgia Bar Association or be a graduate of the Southern Police Institute  
 44 School of Police Management and Administration or have a master's degree from an  
 45 accredited college or university. The salary of the chief investigator shall be \$115,286.64  
 46 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb County.

47 (d) In addition to those employees provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section,  
 48 there is created the position of executive assistant to the sheriff. The executive assistant  
 49 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,  
 50 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The sheriff shall establish such qualifications,  
 51 education, and experience as he or she deems necessary for the individual appointed to the  
 52 position of executive assistant. The salary of the executive assistant shall be \$69,269.33  
 53 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb County."

54 **SECTION 2.**

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

57 **SECTION 3.**

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