

Senate Bill 151

By: Senators Martin of the 9th, Black of the 8th, McKoon of the 29th, Williams of the 27th,
Hill of the 6th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to salary
2 and allowances of members and officers, so as to impose penalties on members of the
3 General Assembly who repeatedly misuse expense funds and reimbursements; to provide for
4 related matters; to provide for an effective date and applicability; to repeal conflicting laws;
5 and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 28-1-8 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to salary and
9 allowances of members and officers, is amended by revising subsection (e) as follows:

10 "(e) The Senate Rules Committee shall designate an audit subcommittee to examine and
11 review, not less than once every two months, legislative expenditures, including all
12 vouchers submitted by members of the Senate, as provided for in this Code section, for
13 which the members have received payment. The subcommittee shall be composed of at
14 least three members. The chairperson of the subcommittee shall not review or examine his
15 or her own vouchers but shall ensure that such vouchers are reviewed and examined by the
16 full subcommittee. The subcommittee is authorized to issue reports of its examination and
17 review. The House Information and Audits Committee shall examine and review, not less
18 than once every two months, legislative expenditures, including all vouchers submitted by
19 members of the House of Representatives, as provided for in this Code section, for which
20 the members have received payment. The committee is authorized to issue reports of its
21 examination and review. In the event that a member is found to have misused expense
22 funds, the subcommittee or committee, as appropriate, shall order the member to reimburse
23 the General Assembly for the full amount of the misused expense funds plus a penalty
24 equal to 25 percent of the full amount of the misused funds, and if such member has been
25 found to have misused expense funds a third or subsequent time in a 24 month period, an
26 additional penalty equal to 50 percent of the full amount of the misused funds shall be
27 imposed. These sanctions shall be in addition to and not in lieu of any and all other

28 penalties that may be imposed under law. In the event that a member is found to have
29 misused expense funds more than three times in a calendar year, such member shall be
30 required to submit his or her expense reimbursement vouchers to the audit subcommittee
31 of the Senate Rules Committee or the House Information and Audits Committee, as
32 appropriate, for approval prior to submitting such vouchers for payment for a period of one
33 year."

34 **SECTION 2.**

35 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2015, and shall apply to conduct occurring on and
36 after such date.

37 **SECTION 3.**

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