

House Bill 192 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE) (AM)

By: Representatives Powell of the 32nd and Taylor of the 79th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 80 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions regarding counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental
3 entities, so as to provide for the limitation and regulation of the use of government
4 purchasing cards and government credit cards by elected officials of counties, municipal
5 corporations, local school systems, and consolidated governments; to provide for the
6 promulgation of certain policies; to provide for access to certain records; to provide for
7 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 80 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
11 provisions regarding counties, municipal corporations, and other governmental entities, is
12 amended by adding a new Code section to read as follows:

13 "36-80-24.

14 (a) An elected official of a county, municipal corporation, local school system, or
15 consolidated government shall be prohibited from the use of a government purchasing card
16 or a government credit card unless:

17 (1) Such purchases are solely for items or services that directly relate to such official's
18 public duties; and

19 (2) Such purchases are in accordance with guidelines adopted by the county, municipal
20 corporation, local school system, or consolidated government.

21 (b) Documents related to such purchases incurred by such elected officials shall be
22 available for public inspection.

23 (c) No such county, municipal corporation, local school system, or consolidated
24 government shall issue government purchasing cards or government credit cards to elected
25 officials on or after January 1, 2016, until the governing authority of such county,
26 municipal corporation, local school system, or consolidated government, by public vote,
27 has authorized such issuance and has promulgated specific policies regarding the use of

28 such government purchasing cards or government credit cards for elected officials of such
29 county, municipal corporation, local school system, or consolidated government. Such
30 policies shall include the following:

31 (1) Designation of officials who shall be authorized to be issued such government
32 purchasing cards or government credit cards;

33 (2) A requirement that, before being issued a government purchasing card or government
34 credit card, authorized users shall sign and accept an agreement with the county,
35 municipal corporation, local school system, or consolidated government issuing the
36 government purchasing card or government credit card that such users will use such cards
37 only in accordance with the policies of the issuing governmental entity;

38 (3) Transaction limits for the use of such cards;

39 (4) A description of purchases that shall be authorized for use of such cards;

40 (5) A description of purchases that shall not be authorized for use of such cards;

41 (6) Designation of a government purchasing card or government credit card
42 administrator;

43 (7) A process for auditing and reviewing purchases made with such cards; and

44 (8) Procedures for addressing a violation of such purchasing card policies and penalties
45 for violations including, but not limited to, revocation of purchasing card or credit card
46 privileges and misdemeanor prosecution."

47 **SECTION 2.**

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