

House Bill 669

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164th, Bryant of the 162nd, Petrea of the 166th, Stephens of the 165th, Gordon of the 163rd, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the compensation of certain officials in Chatham County,
2 approved March 26, 1986 (Ga. L. 1986, p. 4797), as amended, particularly by an Act
3 approved May 29, 2007 (Ga. L. 2007, p. 4351), so as to provide for the compensation of
4 certain Chatham County officials; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 An Act providing for the compensation of certain officials in Chatham County, approved
8 March 26, 1986 (Ga. L. 1986, p. 4797), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May
9 29, 2007 (Ga. L. 2007, p. 4351), is amended by revising Section 1 as follows:

10 "SECTION 1.

11 (a) The officers subject to the provisions of this Act shall receive the following
12 compensation:

13 (1) The tax commissioner shall receive the minimum annual salary provided by Code
14 Section 48-5-183 of the O.C.G.A. and a salary supplement in the amount of \$18,318.00
15 per year.

16 (2) The clerk of the superior court shall receive the minimum annual salary provided by
17 Code Section 15-6-88 of the O.C.G.A. and a salary supplement in the amount of
18 \$18,318.00 per year.

19 (3) The sheriff shall receive the minimum annual salary provided by Code Section
20 15-16-20 of the O.C.G.A. and a salary supplement in the amount of \$25,241.00 per year.

21 (4) The coroner shall receive the minimum annual salary provided by Code Section
22 45-16-11 of the O.C.G.A. and a salary supplement in the amount of \$54,000.00 per year.

23 (b) The annual compensation provided in subsection (a) of this Act shall be paid in equal
24 monthly installments. No provision of this Act shall be applied so as to reduce the
25 compensation of any officer during a term of office."

26 **SECTION 2.**

27 Said Act is further amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

28 "SECTION 1.1.

29 (a) The officers subject to the provisions of this Act shall receive the following
30 compensation:

31 (1)(A) The judge of the probate court shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum
32 of 80 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court provided in Code
33 Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 80 percent of the annual amount of any
34 supplement paid by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the
35 superior court, excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to
36 Ga. L. 1997, p. 4108.

37 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the judge of the probate
38 court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of
39 \$800.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall
40 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This
41 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

42 (2)(A) The chief judge of the state court shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum
43 of 95 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code
44 Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 95 percent of the annual amount of any
45 supplement paid by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the
46 superior court, excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to
47 Ga. L. 1997, p. 4108. In addition, the governing authority of Chatham County shall pay
48 to the chief judge of the state court an additional salary supplement as additional
49 compensation for performing the duties incumbent upon a chief judge of not less than
50 95 percent of the salary supplement paid to the chief judge of the Eastern Judicial
51 Circuit.

52 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the chief judge of the
53 state court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of
54 \$950.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall

55 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This
56 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

57 (3)(A) The judges of the state court shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of
58 95 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code
59 Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 95 percent of the annual amount of any
60 supplement paid by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the
61 superior court, excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to
62 Ga. L. 1997, p. 4108.

63 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, each judge of the state
64 court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of
65 \$950.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall
66 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This
67 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

68 (4)(A) The chief magistrate shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of 85
69 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code Section
70 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 85 percent of the annual amount of any supplement paid
71 by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the superior court,
72 excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to Ga. L. 1997,
73 p. 4108. In addition, the governing authority of Chatham County shall pay to the chief
74 magistrate of the magistrate court an additional salary supplement as additional
75 compensation for performing the duties incumbent upon a chief judge of not less than
76 80 percent of the salary supplement paid to the Chief Judge of the Eastern Judicial
77 Circuit.

78 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the chief magistrate
79 shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of \$850.00,
80 provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall be
81 automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This subparagraph
82 shall apply to terms served after January 1, 2016.

83 (5)(A) Each full-time magistrate shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of 85
84 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code Section
85 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 85 percent of the annual amount of any supplement paid
86 by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the superior court,
87 excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to Ga. L. 1997,
88 p. 4108.

89 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, each full-time
90 magistrate shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of

91 \$850.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall
92 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This
93 subparagraph shall apply to terms served after January 1, 2016.

94 (6) The presiding judge of the juvenile court and the judges of the juvenile court shall
95 be compensated as provided in Code Section 15-11-52 of the O.C.G.A.

96 (b) The annual compensation provided in subsection (a) of this Act shall be paid in equal
97 monthly installments. No provision of this Act shall be applied so as to reduce the
98 compensation of any officer during a term of office."

99 **SECTION 3.**

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