

House Bill 669 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Bryant of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Petrea of the 166<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 165<sup>th</sup>, Gordon of the 163<sup>rd</sup>, 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 in Section 1 by revising subsection (b) as  
10 follows:

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

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

19 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the judge of the probate  
20 court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of  
21 \$800.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall  
22 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This  
23 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

24 (2)(A) The chief judge of the state court shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum  
25 of 95 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code  
26 Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 95 percent of the annual amount of any

27 supplement paid by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the  
28 superior court, excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to  
29 Ga. L. 1997, p. 4108. In addition, the governing authority of Chatham County shall pay  
30 to the chief judge of the state court an additional salary supplement as additional  
31 compensation for performing the duties incumbent upon a chief judge of not less than  
32 95 percent of the salary supplement paid to the chief judge of the Eastern Judicial  
33 Circuit.

34 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the chief judge of the  
35 state court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of  
36 \$950.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall  
37 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This  
38 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

39 (3)(A) The judges of the state court shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of  
40 95 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code  
41 Section 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 95 percent of the annual amount of any  
42 supplement paid by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the  
43 superior court, excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to  
44 Ga. L. 1997, p. 4108.

45 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, each judge of the state  
46 court shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of  
47 \$950.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall  
48 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This  
49 subparagraph shall apply to terms beginning on or after January 1, 2016.

50 (4)(A) The chief magistrate shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of 85  
51 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code Section  
52 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 85 percent of the annual amount of any supplement paid  
53 by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the superior court,  
54 excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to Ga. L. 1997,  
55 p. 4108. In addition, the governing authority of Chatham County shall pay to the chief  
56 magistrate of the magistrate court an additional salary supplement as additional  
57 compensation for performing the duties incumbent upon a chief judge of not less than  
58 80 percent of the salary supplement paid to the Chief Judge of the Eastern Judicial  
59 Circuit.

60 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, the chief magistrate  
61 shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of \$850.00,  
62 provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall be

63 automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This subparagraph  
64 shall apply to terms served after January 1, 2016.

65 (5)(A) Each full-time magistrate shall receive an annual salary equal to the sum of 85  
66 percent of the annual salary of a judge of the superior court as provided in Code Section  
67 45-7-4 of the O.C.G.A., plus 85 percent of the annual amount of any supplement paid  
68 by the governing authority of Chatham County to a judge of the superior court,  
69 excluding any longevity pay to a judge of the superior court pursuant to Ga. L. 1997,  
70 p. 4108.

71 (B) For each four-year term following the initial term of office, each full-time  
72 magistrate shall be entitled to an increase in his or her annual salary in the amount of  
73 \$850.00, provided that such longevity increase and any cost of living adjustment shall  
74 be automatically reduced to reflect an increase provided in general law. This  
75 subparagraph shall apply to terms served after January 1, 2016.

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

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

81 **SECTION 2.**

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