

House Bill 185

By: Representatives Coomer of the 14th, Willard of the 51st, Hitchens of the 161st, Golick of the 40th, and Belton of the 112th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 15-9-2.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 appointment, compensation, term, authority, qualifications, training, and other limitations of
3 associate probate court judges, so as to change provisions relating to the practice of law
4 outside of serving as an associate probate court judge; to provide for related matters; to
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 15-9-2.1 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to appointment,
9 compensation, term, authority, qualifications, training, and other limitations of associate
10 probate court judges, is amended by revising paragraph (1) of subsection (e) as follows:

11 "(1) It shall be unlawful for any full-time associate judge of the probate court to engage
12 in any practice of law outside his or her role as an associate judge of the probate court;
13 provided, however, that such prohibition shall not apply when he or she is serving as a
14 judge advocate general or in any other military role in a reserve component of the United
15 States Army, United States Navy, United States Marine Corps, United States Coast
16 Guard, United States Air Force, United States National Guard, Georgia National Guard,
17 Georgia Air National Guard, Georgia Naval Militia, or the State Defense Force. It shall
18 be unlawful for any part-time associate judge of the probate court to engage directly or
19 indirectly in the practice of law in his or her own name or in the name of another as a
20 partner in any manner in any case, proceeding, or matter of any kind in his or her own
21 court or in any other court in any case, proceeding, or any other matters of which his or
22 her own court has pending jurisdiction or has jurisdiction. It shall be unlawful for any
23 associate judge of the probate court, full-time or part-time, to give advice or counsel to
24 any person on any matter of any kind whatsoever that has arisen directly or indirectly in
25 his or her own court, except such advice or counsel as he or she is called upon to give
26 while performing the duties of an associate judge of the probate court."

27

SECTION 2.

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.