

Senate Resolution 2 - Prefile

By: Senator Seay of the 34th

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide for the compensation of the
 2 President of the Senate and members of the General Assembly; to provide for the
 3 reimbursement of certain expenses by such persons; to provide for related matters; to provide
 4 for the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

7 Article III, Section IV of the Constitution is amended by revising Paragraph VI as follows:

8 "Paragraph VI. *Salaries.* (a) The members of the General Assembly and the President
 9 of the Senate shall receive such salary as shall be provided for by law, provided that no
 10 increase in salary shall become effective prior to the end of the term during which such
 11 change is made basic annual compensation in an amount each year equal to the median
 12 annual household income for citizens of the State of Georgia for the previous year as
 13 determined by the state auditor to take effect on the first day of January each year.

14 (b) No member of the General Assembly or the President of the Senate shall receive
 15 reimbursement for any expenses except as provided in this Paragraph.

16 (c) Subject to approval by the President of the Senate or by the Speaker of the House of
 17 Representatives for members of their respective houses of the General Assembly and
 18 except as otherwise provided in this Paragraph, a member of the General Assembly may
 19 be reimbursed for any of the following:

20 (1) Expenses incurred for travel on official business in the same amounts or at the same
 21 rates as for state employees traveling in the service of the state under state law, rules,
 22 regulations, or policies; provided, however, that the travel by a member of the General
 23 Assembly is to a place outside his or her district from which he or she is elected; and

24 (2) Actual expenses, other than travel expenses, incurred in the performance of official
 25 duties.

26 (d) Reimbursement for expenses may only be made under subparagraph (c) of this
 27 Paragraph after a determination by the presiding officer of such member's house to which

28 he or she was elected that the travel or expense is in the service of the state and upon
 29 submission of a signed voucher submitted in the same manner as a request for
 30 reimbursement of expenses by a state employee.

31 (e) Except for expenses for transportation, no member of the General Assembly who
 32 resides less than 50 miles from the state capitol may be reimbursed for any travel expenses
 33 for travel between his or her place of residence and the state capitol.

34 (f) In making the determination under subparagraph (d) of this Paragraph, the presiding
 35 officer shall not determine whether a particular expense incurred by any member of the
 36 General Assembly was not in the service of the state on any basis that discriminates
 37 between members of the General Assembly.

38 (g) Reimbursement for expenses authorized pursuant to this Paragraph shall be paid in
 39 a timely manner that is consistent with expense reimbursement regulations jointly
 40 promulgated by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of
 41 Representatives. Such regulations shall, to the extent practicable, mirror similar
 42 regulations applicable to state employees. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of
 43 the House of Representatives shall not discriminate between members of the General
 44 Assembly regarding the timely reimbursement of authorized expenses.

45 (h) The state auditor may promulgate such rules and regulations as he or she deems
 46 necessary to enforce his or her responsibilities under this Paragraph and shall provide an
 47 annual report on compensation and reimbursement of expenses to members of the General
 48 Assembly.

49 (i) The compensation and reimbursement for expenses under this Paragraph shall
 50 constitute the total amounts payable to the presiding officers and members of the General
 51 Assembly, beginning with the terms commencing on the second Monday in January, 2021.

52 (j) The General Assembly shall not increase, supplement, or otherwise enlarge by law
 53 the compensation or reimbursement for expenses payable under this Paragraph."

54 **SECTION 2.**

55 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as
 56 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the
 57 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

58 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide for the
 59 () NO compensation and reimbursement of expenses for the President of the Senate
 and members of the General Assembly?"

60 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."

61 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If

62 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall
63 become a part of the Constitution of this state.