## Senate Bill 171

By: Senators Wilkinson of the 50th, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Ginn of the 47th, Mullis of the 53rd, Gooch of the 51st and others

## AS PASSED SENATE

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- 1 To amend Title 15, Chapter 2 of Title 21, and Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia
- 2 Annotated, relating to courts, elections and primaries generally, and revenue and taxation,
- 3 respectively, so as to modify certain provisions regarding the compensation received by
- 4 certain local government officials; to change the manner in which certain adjustments to such
- 5 compensation are determined; to provide for the manner in which such officials receive
- 6 certain local supplements; to provide for procedures, conditions, and limitations in
- 7 connection therewith; to provide for an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal
- 8 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

- 11 Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, is amended by revising
- 12 Code Section 15-6-88, relating to minimum annual salary schedule for clerks of superior
- 13 court, by revising subsections (a) and (b) as follows:
- 14 "(a) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual
- salary of each clerk of the superior court in each county of this state shall be fixed
- according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the
- 17 United States decennial census of 2000 2010 or any future such census; provided, however,
- that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which
- 19 the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to
- 20 July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Except
- 21 as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this Code section, each such clerk shall receive
- an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of the county, of
- 23 not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

24	Population	Minimum Salary

26	6,000 - 11,889
27	11,890 - 19,999
28	20,000 - 28,999
29	29,000 - 38,999
30	39,000 - 49,999
31	50,000 - 74,999
32	75,000 - 99,999
33	100,000 - 149,999
34	150,000 - 199,999
35	200,000 - 249,999
36	250,000 - 299,999
37	300,000 - 399,999
38	400,000 - 499,999
39	500,000 or more
40	(b)(1) Minimum salaries shall be automatically adjusted annually based upon certain
41	increases granted to state employees according to this subsection. Whenever the state
42	employees subject to compensation plans authorized and approved in accordance with
43	Code Section 45-20-4 receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based
44	increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum
45	salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code Section 15-6-89, and in
46	subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived by increasing each
47	of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection
48	(a) of Code Section 15-6-90, where applicable shall be increased by the same
49	percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living
50	increase or general performance based increase received by state employees is in
51	different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the
52	amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section,
53	in Code Section 15-6-89, and in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the
54	amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be increased by
55	a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of
56	the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning
57	and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase
58	when necessary. <u>In years where there is no increase in the minimum salary under</u>
59	subsection (a) of this Code section, the automatic increase to The periodic changes in
60	the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code
61	section, in Code Section 15-6-89, in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the

amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this subsection shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in subsection (a) of this Code section, in Code Section 15-6-89, and in subsection (b) of Code Section 15-10-105, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (a) of Code Section 15-6-90, shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective.

(2) Any automatic increases calculated under paragraph (1) of this subsection that have been provided prior to the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under subsection (a) of this Code section shall cease to be applied upon the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under subsection (a) of this Code section. Following such effective date, new automatic increases shall be calculated as provided in paragraph (1)

78 <u>of this subsection."</u>

79 **SECTION 2.** 

80 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 15-6-89, relating to additional remuneration for certain services of clerks of superior courts, as follows:

82 "15-6-89.

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83 In addition to the minimum salary provided in Code Section 15-6-88 or any other salary provided by any applicable general or local law, each clerk of superior court of any county 84 85 who also serves as clerk of a state court, court classified as a municipal court but funded 86 through appropriations of the county governing authority, juvenile court, or civil court 87 under any applicable general or local law of this state or who performs duties pursuant to 88 paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of Code Section 15-12-1.1 shall receive for his or her 89 services in such other court a salary of not less than \$323.59 \\$367.52 per month, to be paid 90 from the funds of the county. In the event any such court for which a clerk of superior 91 court is serving as clerk is abolished, the clerk of superior court shall not be entitled to any 92 salary heretofore received for service in such court."

93 SECTION 3.

94 Said title is further amended by revising paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (a) of Code 95 Section 15-9-63, relating to schedule of minimum salaries of judges of the probate court, as 96 follows:

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"(a)(1) Any other laws provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual salary of each judge of the probate court in this state shall be fixed according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States decennial census of 2000 2010 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Each such judge of the probate court shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of his or her the county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

107	<u>Population</u>	Minimum Salary
108	0 - 5,999	\$ 29,832.20 \$ 35,576.65
109	6,000 - 11,889	
110	11,890 - 19,999	
111	20,000 - 28,999	
112	29,000 - 38,999	<u>53,035.03</u> <u>63,247.38</u>
113	39,000 - 49,999	<u>56,352.46</u> <u>67,203.60</u>
114	50,000 - 74,999	
115	75,000 - 99,999	
116	100,000 - 149,999	
117	150,000 - 199,999	
118	200,000 - 249,999	
119	250,000 - 299,999	
120	300,000 - 399,999	
121	400,000 - 499,999	
122	500,000 or more	
123	(2)(A) Minimum salaries shall be	automatically adjusted annually based upon certain
124	increases granted to state employee	es according to this subsection. Whenever the state
125	employees subject to compensation	n plans authorized and approved in accordance with
126	Code Section 45-20-4 receive a co	ost-of-living increase or general performance based
127	increase of a certain percentage or a	a certain amount, the amounts fixed in the minimum
128	salary schedule in paragraph (1) of	this subsection and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the
129	amounts derived by increasing e	each of said amounts through the application of
130	longevity increases pursuant to C	Code Section 15-9-65, where applicable, shall be
131	increased by the same percentage of	or same amount applicable to such state employees.
132	If the cost-of-living increase or ge	neral performance based increase received by state

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employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. <u>In years</u> where there is no increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the automatic increase to The periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection and in Code Section 15-9-64, or the amounts derived by increasing each of said amounts through the application of longevity increases pursuant to Code Section 15-9-65, where applicable, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective. (B) Any automatic increases calculated under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph that have been provided prior to the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall cease to be applied upon the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection. Following such effective date, new automatic increases shall be calculated as provided in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph."

SECTION 4.

161 Said title is further amended in Code Section 15-10-23, relating to minimum compensation and annual salary of magistrates, by revising subsection (c) as follows:

"(c)(1) Minimum salaries shall be automatically adjusted annually based upon certain increases granted to state employees according to this subsection. Whenever the state employees subject to compensation plans authorized and approved in accordance with Code Section 45-20-4 receive a cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount, the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection

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(d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, shall be increased by the same percentage or same amount applicable to such state employees. If the cost-of-living increase or general performance based increase received by state employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. In years where there is no increase in the minimum salary under subsection (a) of this Code section, the automatic increase to The periodic changes in the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, as authorized by this subsection, shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts provided in subsection (a) of this Code section, as increased by the supplement, if any, provided by subsection (d) of Code Section 15-10-105 and as increased by the application of longevity increases pursuant to subsection (b) of this Code section, as authorized by this subsection, shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective. (2) Any automatic increases provided under paragraph (1) of this subsection that have been provided prior to the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under subsection (a) of this Code section shall cease to be applied upon the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under subsection (a) of this Code section. Following such effective date, new automatic increases shall be calculated as provided in paragraph (1) of this subsection."

201 **SECTION 5.** 

202 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 15-16-20, relating 203 to minimum annual salaries for sheriffs, as follows:

"(a)(1) Any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, the minimum annual salary of each sheriff in this state shall be fixed according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the United States decennial census of 2000 2010 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, each such sheriff shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of the sheriff's county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

214	<u>Populati</u>	<u>on</u>	Minimum Salary
215	0 - 5,999		\$42,045.88 \$ 50,132.72
216	6,000 - 11,889		4 <del>6,917.92</del> <u>55,952.37</u>
217	11,890 - 19,999		<del>53,880.12</del> <u>64,255.19</u>
218	20,000 - 28,999 .		<del>59,328.83</del> <u>70,753.11</u>
219	29,000 - 38,999		<del>64,776.16</del> <u>77,294.36</u>
220	39,000 - 49,999		
221	50,000 - 74,999		<del>75,674.90</del> <u>90,246.74</u>
222	75,000 - 99,999		
223	100,000 - 149,999		
224	150,000 - 199,999		
225	200,000 - 249,999		<del>86,572.30</del> <u>103,266.39</u>
226	250,000 - 299,999		94,759.02 <u>113,005.67</u>
227	300,000 - 399,999		105,822.14 126,199.09
228	400,000 - 499,999		109,931.24 131,099.43
229	500,000 or more		114,040.36 136,011.72"
230	(2)(A) Minimum sa	laries shall be automatically adjus	sted annually based upon certain
231	increases granted to	state employees according to this	s paragraph. Whenever the state
232	employees subject to	compensation plans authorized a	and approved in accordance with
233	Code Section 45-20	-4 receive a cost-of-living increas	se or general performance based
234	increase of a certain	percentage or a certain amount, th	e amounts fixed in the minimum
235	salary schedule in pa	aragraph (1) of this subsection and	d in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or
236	the amounts derived	l by increasing each of said amo	ounts through the application of
237	longevity increases	pursuant to subsection (b) of this	Code section, where applicable,
238	shall be increased b	y the same percentage or same a	amount applicable to such state
239	employees. If the	cost-of-living increase or gener	ral performance based increase

received by state employees is in different percentages or different amounts as to certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. In years where there is no increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection, the automatic increase to The periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, and in Code Section 15-16-20.1, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective. (B) Any automatic increases calculated under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph that have been provided prior to the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall cease to be applied upon the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection. Following such effective date, new automatic increases shall be calculated as provided in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph."

266 **SECTION 6.** 

267 Said title is further amended by revising Code Section 15-16-20.1, relating to additional 268 salary for sheriffs, as follows:

269 "15-16-20.1.

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In addition to the minimum salary provided in Code Section 15-16-20, the sheriff of any county who performs the duties of a sheriff for a state court, probate court, magistrate court, juvenile court, or county recorder's court under any applicable general or local law of this state shall receive for his or her services in such court or courts a salary of not less than \$323.59 \$367.52 per month, to be paid from the funds of the county. A sheriff who serves in more than one such court shall receive only one such salary."

276 **SECTION 7.** 

277 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and 278 primaries generally, is amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, relating to county deputy registrars, clerical help, and appointment of county officer or employee as 280 chief deputy registrar, as follows: 281 "(c) In every county wherein the registrars do not maintain an office which is open and 282 staffed during regular business hours, the registrars shall designate and appoint as chief 283 deputy registrar a full-time county officer or employee for the purpose of registering 284 eligible electors and performing other duties as may be required by the board of registrars. 285 The governing authority of the county shall provide for the compensation of the chief 286 deputy registrar in an amount not less than \$293.29 \$333.11 per month. The name, 287 business address, telephone number, and any other pertinent information relative to the 288 chief deputy registrar shall be forwarded by the registrars to the Secretary of State's office, 289 where such information shall be maintained on file."

290 **SECTION 8.** 

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Title 48 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to revenue and taxation, is amended by revising subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, relating to tax collectors and tax commissioners as ex officio sheriffs, as follows:

"(g) Each tax collector or tax commissioner who is compensated on a salary basis and who is authorized to act as an ex officio sheriff under this Code section and whose office performs substantially all of the duties of the sheriff with respect to tax executions shall be entitled to a salary of \$349.78 \$397.27 per month for his or her service as ex officio sheriff. Such compensation shall be in addition to any other compensation to which such tax commissioner or tax collector is entitled. Such additional compensation shall not be paid to any tax commissioner who is compensated solely by the fee system of compensation; but such compensation shall be paid to any tax commissioner who is compensated in part by fees and in part by a salary. Such compensation shall be paid in equal monthly installments from county funds."

304 **SECTION 9.** 

305 Said title is further amended by revising paragraphs (1) and (2) of subsection (b) of Code 306 Section 48-5-183, relating to salaries of tax collectors and tax commissioners, as follows:

"(b)(1) Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, except for the 308 provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, the minimum annual salary of each tax collector and tax commissioner who is compensated by an annual salary shall be fixed

according to the population of the county in which he or she serves, as determined by the

United States decennial census of 2000 2010 or any future such census; provided, however, that such annual salary shall be recalculated in any year following a census year in which the Department of Community Affairs publishes a census estimate for the county prior to July 1 in such year that is higher than the immediately preceding decennial census. Each such officer shall receive an annual salary, payable in equal monthly installments from the funds of his or her county, of not less than the amount fixed in the following schedule:

318	<u>Population</u>	Minimum Salary
319	0 - 5,999	\$ 29,832.20 \$ 35,576.65
320	6,000 - 11,889	
321	11,890 - 19,999	
322	20,000 - 28,999	
323	29,000 - 38,999	<del>53,035.03</del> <u>63,247.38</u>
324	39,000 - 49,999	<del>56,352.46</del> <u>67,203.60</u>
325	50,000 - 74,999	63,164.60 <u>75,327.48</u>
326	75,000 - 99,999	67,800.09 <u>80,855.58</u>
327	100,000 - 149,999	
328	150,000 - 199,999	
329	200,000 - 249,999	
330	250,000 - 299,999	
331	300,000 - 399,999	101,207.60 120,695.99
332	400,000 - 499,999	105,316.72 125,596.32
333	500,000 or more	<del>109,425.84</del> <u>130,496.72</u> "
334	(2)(A) Minimum salaries shall be automatically adju	usted annually based upon certain
335	increases granted to state employees according to the	is subsection. Whenever the state
336	employees subject to compensation plans authorized	and approved in accordance with
337	Code Section 45-20-4 receive a cost-of-living increase	ase or general performance based
338	increase of a certain percentage or a certain amount,	the amounts fixed in the minimum
339	salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection,	in subsection (g) of Code Section
340	48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c)	of Code Section 21-2-213, or the
341	amounts derived by increasing each of said amo	ounts through the application of
342	longevity increases pursuant to subsection (d) of this	is Code section, where applicable
343	shall be increased by the same percentage or same	amount applicable to such state
344	employees. If the cost-of-living increase or gene	eral performance based increase
345	received by state employees is in different percent	tages or different amounts as to
346	certain categories of employees, the amounts fixed i	n the minimum salary schedule in

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paragraph (1) of this subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, shall be increased by a percentage or an amount not to exceed the average percentage or average amount of the general increase in salary granted to the state employees. The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase or average amount increase when necessary. In years where there is no increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of the subsection, the automatic increase to The periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases, as authorized by this paragraph shall become effective on the first day of January following the date that the cost-of-living increases received by state employees become effective; provided, however, that if the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective on January 1, such periodic changes in the amounts fixed in the minimum salary schedule in paragraph (1) of this subsection, in subsection (g) of Code Section 48-5-137, and, where applicable, in subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-213, or the amounts derived through the application of longevity increases as authorized by this paragraph, shall become effective on the same date that the cost-of-living increases or general performance based increases received by state employees become effective. (B) Any automatic increases calculated under subparagraph (A) of this paragraph that have been applied prior to the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall cease to be applied upon the effective date of any increase in the minimum salary under paragraph (1) of this subsection. Following such effective date, new automatic increases shall be calculated as provided in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph."

374 **SECTION 10.** 

375 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2021.

376 **SECTION 11**.

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