

House Bill 675

By: Representative Turner of the 21<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 28 and Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 45 of the Official Code  
2 of Georgia Annotated, relating to general provisions regarding the General Assembly and  
3 general provisions regarding salaries and fees of public officers and employees, respectively,  
4 so as to provide that the positions of Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of  
5 Representatives shall be full-time positions to which the persons holding such positions shall  
6 devote the full extent of their time and effort; to provide for the compensation of such  
7 positions; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting  
8 laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

11 Chapter 1 of Title 28 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
12 provisions regarding the General Assembly, is amended by revising subsections (a) and (b)  
13 of Code Section 28-1-8, relating to salary and allowances of members and officers, as  
14 follows:

15 "(a) Each member of the General Assembly shall receive an annual salary, as provided for  
16 in Code Section 45-7-4, to be paid in equal monthly installments. Upon complying with  
17 the requirements of paragraph (22) of subsection (a) of Code Section 45-7-4, each member  
18 shall also be reimbursed for those actual expenses incurred in the performance of duties for  
19 which reimbursement is provided in paragraph (22) of subsection (a) of Code  
20 Section 45-7-4. ~~The Speaker of the House of Representatives,~~ the Speaker Pro Tempore  
21 of the House of Representatives; and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall receive  
22 an additional amount per annum as provided for in Code Section 45-7-4. The majority  
23 leader, the minority leader, the administration floor leader, and the assistant administration  
24 floor leaders of the House of Representatives and the majority leader, the minority leader,  
25 the administration floor leader, and the assistant administration floor leaders of the Senate  
26 shall each receive such additional amount per annum as shall be provided by resolution of

27 the respective houses; but such amount for each shall not be greater than the additional  
28 amount provided by law for the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives. All  
29 of such additional amounts shall also be paid in equal monthly installments. The  
30 Lieutenant Governor and the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall receive the  
31 salaries provided for in Code Section 45-7-4 and shall be full-time officers of the General  
32 Assembly and devote the full extent of their time and effort to such positions.

33 (b)(1) During regular and extraordinary sessions of the General Assembly, each member,  
34 including the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall also receive a daily expense  
35 allowance. Each member, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall  
36 also receive the mileage allowance for the use of a personal car when devoted to official  
37 business as provided for in Code Section 50-19-7, for not more than one round trip to and  
38 from the member's residence and the state capitol by the most practical route, per  
39 calendar week, or portion thereof, during each regular and extraordinary session. In the  
40 event a member, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives, travels by public  
41 carrier for any part of a round trip as provided above, such member shall receive a travel  
42 allowance of actual transportation costs for each such part in lieu of the mileage  
43 allowance. For each day's service within the state as a member of a standing committee  
44 or of an interim committee created by or pursuant to a resolution of either or both houses  
45 or as a member of a committee, board, bureau, commission, or other agency created by  
46 or pursuant to statute or the Constitution of Georgia, such member, including the Speaker  
47 of the House of Representatives, shall receive a daily expense allowance and the mileage  
48 allowance for the use of a personal car when devoted to official business as provided for  
49 in Code Section 50-19-7 or a travel allowance of actual transportation costs if traveling  
50 by public carrier. Any such member, including the Speaker of the House of  
51 Representatives, shall also be reimbursed for any conference or meeting registration fee  
52 incurred in the performance of his or her official duties as a member of any committee,  
53 board, bureau, commission, or other agency. In the event it becomes necessary for a  
54 committee to rent a meeting room in the performance of the duties of the committee, the  
55 committee chairperson must have prior written approval of the President of the Senate  
56 or the Speaker of the House, or both, as the case may be, depending on the composition  
57 of the committee. The expense of such rental shall be billed to the committee. For each  
58 day's service out of state as a member of any committee, board, bureau, commission, or  
59 other agency, such member, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives, shall  
60 receive actual expenses as an expense allowance, plus the mileage allowance for the use  
61 of a personal car when devoted to official business as provided for in Code Section  
62 50-19-7 or a travel allowance of actual transportation costs if traveling by public carrier  
63 or by rental motor vehicle. The amount of the daily expense allowances provided for in

64 this paragraph shall be fixed by the Legislative Services Committee; provided, however,  
 65 that the amount of the daily expense allowance shall remain at \$75.00 until changed by  
 66 the Legislative Services Committee. The Legislative Services Committee shall  
 67 periodically review, and when appropriate revise, the amount of the daily expense  
 68 allowance. The amount of the daily expense allowance shall be fixed by the Legislative  
 69 Services Committee in an amount which reasonably corresponds to the housing and meal  
 70 expenses typically incurred by members in the performance of their duties; provided,  
 71 however, that the amount so fixed shall not exceed the federal per diem rate in effect for  
 72 the state capital as specified by the General Services Administration at the time that the  
 73 committee acts.

74 (2) Transportation costs incurred by a member of the Senate for air travel within or  
 75 without the state during the interim as a member of a committee, board, bureau,  
 76 commission, or other agency shall be reimbursed only if the incurring of such costs is  
 77 approved under procedures established by the Senate Administrative Affairs Committee.  
 78 Transportation costs incurred by a member of the House of Representatives for air travel  
 79 within or without the state during the interim as a member of a committee, board, bureau,  
 80 commission, or other agency shall be reimbursed only if the incurring of such costs is  
 81 approved under procedures established by the Speaker of the House.

82 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subsection to the contrary,  
 83 reimbursement of authorized transportation costs incurred by a member of the General  
 84 Assembly for air travel ~~inside~~ within or ~~outside~~ without the state at any time shall be  
 85 limited to the amounts provided for in the state-wide contract. As used in this paragraph,  
 86 the term 'state-wide contract' means the state-wide contract for airline travel incorporated  
 87 in the state travel regulations established by the State Accounting Office. This limitation  
 88 shall not apply, however, if the air travel is between pairs of cities not covered in the  
 89 state-wide contract, if no state-wide contract is in effect, if the contracted flight is other  
 90 than a nonstop flight, if the contracted flight would cause the member undue hardship or  
 91 would conflict with the member's schedule, or if passage under a state-wide contract is  
 92 otherwise not reasonably available. When reimbursement is requested for an amount in  
 93 excess of the amount provided in the state-wide contract, the member shall sign a  
 94 statement indicating which of the foregoing exceptions applies.

95 (4) All allowances provided for in this subsection shall be paid upon the submission of  
 96 proper vouchers."

## 97 SECTION 2.

98 Article 1 of Chapter 7 of Title 45 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
 99 general provisions regarding salaries and fees of public officers and employees, is amended

100 by revising Code Section 45-7-4, relating to annual salaries of certain state officials and  
101 cost-of-living adjustments, as follows:

102 "45-7-4.

103 (a) The annual salary of each of the state officials listed below shall be as follows:

104 (1) Governor ..... \$ 175,000.00

105 An allowance in an amount specified in the appropriations Act shall also  
106 be provided for the operation of the Governor's mansion.

107 (2) Lieutenant Governor ..... ~~54,920.00~~  
125,000.00

108 The Lieutenant Governor shall be a full-time officer who shall devote his  
109 or her full time and effort to such office.

110 (3) Adjutant general

111 The adjutant general shall continue to receive the pay and allowances under  
112 the same procedure as provided by law.

113 (4) Commissioner of Agriculture ..... 100,429.00

114 (5) Attorney General ..... 114,633.00

115 (6) Reserved.

116 (7) Commissioner of Insurance ..... 100,396.00

117 (8) Reserved.

118 (9) Commissioner of Labor ..... 100,418.00

119 The above amount of salary for the Commissioner of Labor shall include  
120 any compensation received from the United States government and the  
121 amount of state funds paid shall be reduced by the amount of compensation  
122 received from the United States government.

123 (10) Reserved.

124 (11) Each member of the Public Service Commission ..... 96,655.00

125 (12) Reserved.

126 (13) State School Superintendent ..... 102,708.00

127 (14) Secretary of State ..... 102,708.00

128 (15) Reserved.

129 (16) Reserved.

130 (17) Reserved.

131 (18) Each Justice of the Supreme Court ..... 175,600.00

132 (19) Each Judge of the Court of Appeals ..... 174,500.00

133 (20) Each superior court judge ..... 126,265.00

134	(21) Each district attorney . . . . .	120,072.00
135	(22) Each member of the General Assembly . . . . .	16,200.00

136 (A) Reserved.

137 (B) Each member of the General Assembly, including the Speaker of the  
 138 House of Representatives, shall also receive the allowances provided by  
 139 law. The amount of the daily expense allowance which each member,  
 140 including the Speaker of the House of Representatives, is entitled to  
 141 receive under the provisions of Code Section 28-1-8 shall be as provided  
 142 in that Code section. The mileage allowance for the use of a personal car  
 143 on official business shall be the same as that received by other state  
 144 officials and employees.

145 (C) In addition to any other compensation and allowances authorized for  
 146 members of the General Assembly, each member, including the Speaker  
 147 of the House of Representatives, may be reimbursed for per diem  
 148 differential and for actual expenses incurred in the performance of duties  
 149 as a member of the General Assembly in an amount not to exceed  
 150 \$7,000.00 per year. Expenses reimbursable up to such amount shall be  
 151 limited to one or more of the following purposes: lodging, meals, per diem  
 152 differential, postage, personal services, printing and publications, rents,  
 153 supplies (including software), telecommunications, transportation,  
 154 utilities, purchasing or leasing of equipment, and other reasonable  
 155 expenditures directly related to the performance of a member's duties. If  
 156 equipment purchased by a member has a depreciated value of \$100.00 or  
 157 less when such member leaves office, the equipment does not need to be  
 158 returned to the state. No reimbursement shall be made for any postage  
 159 which is used for a political newsletter. No reimbursement shall be paid  
 160 for lodging or meals for any day for which a member receives the daily  
 161 expense allowance as provided in this paragraph. Eligible expenses shall  
 162 be reimbursed following the submission of vouchers to the legislative  
 163 fiscal office in compliance with the requirements of this subparagraph and  
 164 subject to the provisions of subparagraph (E) of this paragraph. Such  
 165 vouchers shall be submitted in such form and manner as prescribed by the  
 166 Legislative Services Committee pursuant to subparagraph (E) of this  
 167 paragraph, provided that each such voucher shall be accompanied by a  
 168 supporting document or documents, or legible copies thereof, showing  
 169 payment for each expense claimed or an explanation of the absence of  
 170 such documentation; in addition, each such voucher shall include a

171 certification by the member that the information contained in such  
172 voucher and supporting document or documents, or legible copies thereof,  
173 is true and correct and that such expenses were incurred by the member.  
174 The provisions of Code Section 16-10-20 shall be applicable to any  
175 person submitting such certified vouchers and supporting documents or  
176 copies the same as if the General Assembly were a department or agency  
177 of state government. No such voucher or supporting document shall be  
178 required for per diem differential.

179 (D) The amount of per diem differential which may be claimed for each  
180 day under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph shall be the difference  
181 between the daily expense allowance authorized for members of the  
182 General Assembly and \$119.00; provided, however, that the General  
183 Appropriations Act for any fiscal year may increase such amount of  
184 \$119.00 per day to an amount not in excess of the federal per diem rate  
185 then in effect for the state capital as specified by the General Services  
186 Administration. Per diem differential shall be paid by the legislative fiscal  
187 office to the member upon the member's notification to the legislative  
188 fiscal office of the days for which the daily expense allowance was  
189 received for which the member wishes to claim the per diem differential,  
190 and the legislative fiscal office shall keep a record of the days for which  
191 per diem differential is so claimed and paid.

192 (E) For the purposes of this paragraph, a year shall begin on the  
193 convening date of the General Assembly in regular session each year and  
194 end on the day prior to the convening of the General Assembly in the next  
195 calendar year. Any voucher or claim for any reimbursement for any year  
196 as defined in this paragraph shall be submitted no later than the fifteenth  
197 of April immediately following the end of such year. No reimbursement  
198 shall be made on any voucher or claim submitted after that date. Any  
199 amounts remaining in such expense account at the end of the first year of  
200 the two-year biennium may be claimed for expenses incurred during the  
201 second year of the two-year biennium. Any amounts remaining in any  
202 expense account which are not so claimed by April 15 of the year  
203 following the second year of the biennium and any amounts claimed  
204 which are returned as hereafter provided for in this paragraph shall lapse  
205 and shall be remitted by the legislative fiscal office to the general fund of  
206 the state treasury. Any former member of the General Assembly may be  
207 reimbursed for expenses incurred while a member of the General

208 Assembly upon compliance with the provisions of this paragraph. The  
209 Legislative Services Committee is empowered to provide such procedures  
210 as it deems advisable to administer the provisions of this paragraph,  
211 including, but not limited to, definitions of the above list of items for  
212 which reimbursement may be made; provided, however, that the term  
213 'other reasonable expenditures directly related to the performance of a  
214 member's duties' shall be as defined by policies adopted by the Speaker  
215 of the House of Representatives and by the Senate Administrative Affairs  
216 Committee as to reimbursement of such expenditures incurred by  
217 members of the House and Senate, respectively; and provided, further,  
218 that the amount of expenses which may be reimbursed within the limits  
219 of subparagraph (C) of this paragraph for travel outside the state may be  
220 as provided by policies adopted by the Speaker of the House of  
221 Representatives and by the Senate Administrative Affairs Committee as  
222 to such expenditures of members of the House and Senate, respectively.  
223 The Legislative Services Committee is further empowered to prescribe the  
224 form of the voucher or claim which must be submitted to the legislative  
225 fiscal office. In the event of any disagreement as to whether any  
226 reimbursement shall be made or any allowance shall be paid, the  
227 Legislative Services Committee shall make the final determination; except  
228 that in the event of any disagreement as to whether any reimbursement  
229 under subparagraph (C) of this paragraph shall be made for other  
230 reasonable expenses directly related to the performance of a member's  
231 duties or for travel outside the state, the Speaker of the House of  
232 Representatives shall make the final determination as to such expenses  
233 incurred by a member of the House, and the Senate Administrative Affairs  
234 Committee shall make the final determination as to such expenses  
235 incurred by a member of the Senate. In the event any reimbursement is  
236 made or any allowance is paid and it is later determined that such  
237 reimbursement or payment was made in error, the person to whom such  
238 reimbursement or payment was made shall remit to the legislative fiscal  
239 office the amount of money involved. In the event any such person  
240 refuses to make such remittance, the legislative fiscal office is authorized  
241 to withhold the payment of any other moneys to which such person is  
242 entitled until the amount of such reimbursement or payment which was  
243 made in error shall be realized.

244	(23) Speaker of the House of Representatives . . . . .	17,800.00
		<u>125,000.00</u>

245 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall ~~also~~ receive the salary  
 246 specified in this paragraph in lieu of the salary and allowances authorized  
 247 as a member of the General Assembly. The Speaker of the House of  
 248 Representatives shall also receive the allowances authorized under this  
 249 Code section and Code Section 28-1-8. ~~Upon the taking of office by the~~  
 250 ~~members of the General Assembly on the convening day of the regular~~  
 251 ~~session of the General Assembly in 1983, the annual salary of the Speaker~~  
 252 ~~of the House of Representatives shall become \$22,800.00. After such date,~~  
 253 ~~the Speaker shall also receive as additional salary a sum equal to the amount~~  
 254 ~~of salary over \$30,000.00 per annum which is received by the Lieutenant~~  
 255 ~~Governor as of that date or thereafter; and the salary of the Speaker shall be~~  
 256 ~~adjusted at the beginning of each term so as to include such additional sum~~  
 257 The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall be a full-time officer  
 258 who shall devote his or her full time and effort to such office.

259	(24) President Pro Tempore of the Senate . . . . .	4,800.00
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260 The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall also receive the salary and  
 261 allowances authorized as a member of the General Assembly.

262	(25) Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives . . . . .	4,800.00
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263 The Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives shall also  
 264 receive the salary and allowances authorized as a member of the General  
 265 Assembly.

266 (b) As an adjustment except as qualified below as to members and member-officers of the  
 267 General Assembly, the annual salary of each state official whose salary is established by  
 268 Code Section 45-7-3, this Code section, and Code Sections 45-7-20 and 45-7-21, including  
 269 members of the General Assembly, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
 270 President Pro Tempore of the Senate, and the Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of  
 271 Representatives, may be increased by the General Assembly in the General Appropriations  
 272 Act by a percentage not to exceed the average percentage of the increase in salary as may  
 273 from time to time be granted to employees of the executive, judicial, and legislative  
 274 branches of government. However, any increase for such officials shall not include  
 275 within-grade step increases for which employees subject to compensation plans authorized  
 276 and approved in accordance with Code Section 45-20-4 are eligible. Any increase granted  
 277 pursuant to this subsection shall become effective at the same time that funds are made  
 278 available for the increase for such employees, except increases for members and



279 member-officers of the General Assembly. That portion of the increase determined by the  
280 Legislative Services Committee to reflect a cost-of-living increase based upon objective  
281 economic criteria shall become effective for members and member-officers at the same  
282 time that funds are made available for the increase for such employees. The balance of the  
283 increase for members and member-officers of the General Assembly shall become effective  
284 on the convening of the next General Assembly in January of the next odd-numbered year.  
285 The Office of Planning and Budget shall calculate the average percentage increase.

286 (c) The annual salary being received on June 30, 1980, shall be increased by 8 percent for  
287 each state official listed in subsection (a) of this Code section who:

288 (1) Is not a member of the General Assembly; and

289 (2) Is not a contributing member of a state retirement system and, therefore, does not  
290 benefit by or participate in any program whereunder a portion of the employee  
291 contributions to the state retirement system are made on behalf of the employee by the  
292 employer."

293 **SECTION 3.**

294 This Act shall become effective on the second Monday in January, 2021.

295 **SECTION 4.**

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