

Senate Bill 252

By: Senator Lucas of the 26th

**AS PASSED SENATE**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend an Act to abolish the present model of compensating the Clerk of the Superior  
 2 Court of Twiggs County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L.  
 3 1977, p. 2721), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992,  
 4 p. 5149), and an Act approved April 5, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4913), so as to change the  
 5 manner of fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the Clerk of the Superior Court and  
 6 employees of the Clerk of the Superior Court's office; to provide the Clerk of the Superior  
 7 Court with the authority to fix the compensation of employees of the Clerk of the Superior  
 8 Court; to provide an effective date; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;  
 9 and for other purposes.

10 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 An Act to abolish the present model of compensating the Clerk of the Superior Court of  
 13 Twiggs County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p.  
 14 2721), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 5149),  
 15 and an Act approved April 5, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4913), is amended by revising paragraph  
 16 (1) of subsection (b) of Section 2 as follows:

17 "(1) On or after the effective date of this subsection, when the Board of Commissioners  
 18 of Twiggs County make a cost-of-living adjustment or a cost-of-living allowance, also  
 19 known as a 'COLA', to the compensation of county employees, the base salary of the  
 20 Clerk of the Superior Court provided in subsection (a) of this section, plus any previous  
 21 adjustments which have been received by the Clerk of the Superior Court under this  
 22 paragraph after the effective date of this paragraph, shall receive the same COLA. For  
 23 the purposes of this section, a COLA must be designated as such by the Board of  
 24 Commissioners of Twiggs County, and shall be limited to a percentage increase in the  
 25 employees' compensation for the specific purpose of covering the cost of inflation, which  
 26 influences the cost of living expenses such as rent, food, gas, and clothing. The Board

27 of Commissioners of Twiggs County shall have the sole discretion as to the amount, if  
28 any, of a COLA."

29 **SECTION 2.**

30 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 4 as follows:

31 "SECTION 4.

32 The Clerk of the Superior Court of Twiggs County, Georgia shall have the authority to  
33 appoint such deputies, clerks, assistants, and other personnel as said officer deems necessary  
34 to discharge the official duties of the Clerk of the Superior Court. Said officer shall have the  
35 power and authority, during his or her term of office, to designate and name the person or  
36 persons who shall be employed as such deputies, clerks, assistants, or other employees; to  
37 prescribe their duties and assignments; to remove and replace such employees at will and  
38 within said officer's sole discretion; and to fix the compensation to be received by each  
39 employee within the budgetary constraints established by the Board of Commissioners of  
40 Twiggs County."

41 **SECTION 3.**

42 Said Act is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Section 5 as follows:

43 "(c) On or after the effective date of this subsection, when the Board of Commissioners of  
44 Twiggs County make a cost-of-living adjustment or a cost-of-living allowance, also known  
45 as a 'COLA', to the compensation of county employees, the compensation of the employees  
46 of the Clerk of the Superior Court shall receive the same COLA. For the purposes of this  
47 section, a COLA must be designated as such by the Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
48 County, and shall be limited to a percentage increase in the employees' compensation for  
49 the specific purpose of covering the cost of inflation, which influences the cost of living  
50 expenses such as rent, food, gas, and clothing. The Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
51 County shall have the sole discretion as to the amount, if any, of a COLA."

52 **SECTION 4.**

53 This Act shall become effective on the first day of the month following the month in which  
54 it is approved by the Governor or in which it becomes law without such approval.

55 **SECTION 5.**

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