

Senate Bill 254

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 Tax Commissioner of
 2 Twiggs County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p.
 3 2724), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 5135),
 4 and an Act approved March 25, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4177), so as to change the manner of
 5 fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the tax commissioner and employees of the tax
 6 commissioner's office; to provide the tax commissioner with the authority to fix the
 7 compensation of employees of the tax commissioner's office; to provide an effective date;
 8 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

10

SECTION 1.

11 An Act to abolish the present model of compensating the Tax Commissioner of Twiggs
 12 County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 2724), as
 13 amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 5135), and an Act
 14 approved March 25, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4177), is amended by revising paragraph (1) of
 15 subsection (b) of Section 2 as follows:

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

27 **SECTION 2.**

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

29 **"SECTION 4.**

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

39 **SECTION 3.**

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

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

50 **SECTION 4.**

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

53 **SECTION 5.**

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