

House Bill 1003

By: Representatives Wilkerson of the 38th, Lupton of the 83rd, Panitch of the 51st, Kendrick of the 95th, Campbell of the 35th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 45-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual
2 salaries of certain state officials and cost-of-living adjustments, so as to revise provisions
3 related to daily expense accounts of members of the General Assembly; to provide members
4 of the General Assembly with an additional security expense allowance; to provide for
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 45-7-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to annual salaries
9 of certain state officials and cost-of-living adjustments, is amended by revising
10 subparagraph (a)(22)(C) and adding a new subparagraph to read as follows:

11 "(C) In addition to any other compensation and allowances authorized for members of
12 the General Assembly, each member may be reimbursed for per diem differential and
13 for actual expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the General
14 Assembly in an amount not to exceed ~~\$7,000.00~~ \$10,000.00 per year. Expenses
15 reimbursable up to such amount shall be limited to one or more of the following
16 purposes: lodging, meals, per diem differential, postage, personal services, printing and

H. B. 1003

- 1 -

17 publications, rents, supplies (including software), telecommunications, transportation,
18 utilities, purchasing or leasing of equipment, and other reasonable expenditures directly
19 related to the performance of a member's duties. If equipment purchased by a member
20 has a depreciated value of \$100.00 or less when such member leaves office, the
21 equipment does not need to be returned to the state. No reimbursement shall be made
22 for any postage which is used for a political newsletter. No reimbursement shall be
23 paid for lodging or meals for any day for which a member receives the daily expense
24 allowance as provided in this paragraph. Eligible expenses shall be reimbursed
25 following the submission of vouchers to the legislative fiscal office in compliance with
26 the requirements of this subparagraph and subject to the provisions of subparagraph (E)
27 of this paragraph. Such vouchers shall be submitted in such form and manner as
28 prescribed by the Legislative Services Committee pursuant to subparagraph (E) of this
29 paragraph, provided that each such voucher shall be accompanied by a supporting
30 document or documents, or legible copies thereof, showing payment for each expense
31 claimed or an explanation of the absence of such documentation; in addition, each such
32 voucher shall include a certification by the member that the information contained in
33 such voucher and supporting document or documents, or legible copies thereof, is true
34 and correct and that such expenses were incurred by the member. The provisions of
35 Code Section 16-10-20 shall be applicable to any person submitting such certified
36 vouchers and supporting documents or copies the same as if the General Assembly
37 were a department or agency of state government. No such voucher or supporting
38 document shall be required for per diem differential.

39 (C.1) In addition to any other compensation and allowances authorized for members
40 of the General Assembly, each member may be reimbursed for actual security related
41 expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the General Assembly
42 in an amount not to exceed \$10,000.00 per year. Expenses reimbursable up to such
43 amount shall be limited to security improvements for the member's residence,

44 including, but not limited to, monitoring expenses, or security services when
45 undertaking, traveling, or otherwise related to duties as a member of the General
46 Assembly. If security equipment purchased by a member has not become a fixture to
47 real property and has a depreciated value in excess of \$100.00 when such member
48 leaves office, the equipment shall be returned to the state. Eligible expenses shall be
49 reimbursed following the submission of vouchers to the legislative fiscal office in
50 compliance with the requirements of this subparagraph and subject to the provisions of
51 subparagraph (E) of this paragraph. Such vouchers shall be submitted in such form and
52 manner as prescribed by the Legislative Services Committee pursuant to subparagraph
53 (E) of this paragraph, provided that each such voucher shall be accompanied by a
54 supporting document or documents, or legible copies thereof, showing payment for
55 each expense claimed or an explanation of the absence of such documentation; in
56 addition, each such voucher shall include a certification by the member that the
57 information contained in such voucher and supporting document or documents, or
58 legible copies thereof, is true and correct and that such expenses were incurred by the
59 member. The provisions of Code Section 16-10-20 shall be applicable to any person
60 submitting such certified vouchers and supporting documents or copies the same as if
61 the General Assembly were a department or agency of state government."

62 **SECTION 2.**

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