

Senate Bill 617

By: Senators Halpern of the 39th, Jones II of the 22nd, Jackson of the 41st, Parent of the 44th and Kemp of the 38th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 7 of Title 44 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to dispossessory proceedings, so as to prohibit public access to court records of
3 dispossessory proceedings under certain conditions; to provide for related matters; to repeal
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 Article 3 of Chapter 7 of Title 44 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
8 dispossessory proceedings, is amended in Code Section 44-7-50, relating to demand for
9 possession, procedure upon a tenant's refusal, and notice to vacate or pay, by adding a new
10 subsection to read as follows:

11 "(e) A court of competent jurisdiction shall order all records of the court relating to a
12 dispossessory proceeding to be made unavailable to the public when the tenant has
13 prevailed in the proceeding, has met all the conditions of a settlement agreement, or three
14 years have lapsed since the resolution of the dispossessory action."

15

SECTION 2.

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.