

The Senate Committee on Judiciary offered the following substitute to HB 5:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, so as to
2 change provisions relating to the compensation for certain judicial officials; to increase the
3 number of days and reduce the distance of travel from the judicial building in Atlanta for
4 which a Supreme Court Justice or Court of Appeals Judge can receive a daily expense
5 allowance; to change provisions relating to compensation of juvenile court judges; to correct
6 a cross-reference; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date and a
7 contingent effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 PART I
10 SECTION 1-1.

11 Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to courts, is amended by revising
12 paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of Code Section 15-2-3, relating to oath of Supreme Court
13 Justices and compensation, as follows:

14 "(3) If a Justice resides ~~50~~ 45 miles or more from the judicial building in Atlanta, such
15 Justice shall also receive the same daily expense allowance as members of the General
16 Assembly receive, as set forth in Code Section 28-1-8, for not more than ~~30~~ 40 days
17 during each term of court. Such days shall be utilized only when official court business
18 is being conducted. All allowances provided for in this paragraph shall be paid upon the
19 submission of proper vouchers."

20 SECTION 1-2.

21 Said title is further amended by revising paragraph (3) of subsection (b) of Code Section
22 15-3-5, relating to oath of Court of Appeals Judges and compensation, as follows:

23 "(3) If a Judge resides ~~50~~ 45 miles or more from the judicial building in Atlanta, such
24 Judge shall also receive the same daily expense allowance as members of the General

25 Assembly receive, as set forth in Code Section 28-1-8, for not more than ~~30~~ 40 days
 26 during each term of court. Such days shall be utilized only when official court business
 27 is being conducted. All allowances provided for in this paragraph shall be paid upon the
 28 submission of proper vouchers."

29 **PART II**
 30 **SECTION 2-1.**

31 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 15-11-52, relating
 32 to terms and compensation of judges, as follows:

33 "(c) Out of funds appropriated to the judicial branch of government, the state shall
 34 contribute toward the salary of the judges on a per circuit basis in the following amounts:

35 (1) Each circuit with one or more juvenile court judges who are not superior court judges
 36 assuming the duties of juvenile court judges shall receive a state base grant of ~~\$85,000.00~~
 37 \$100,000.00;

38 (2) In addition to ~~this base amount~~ the amount set forth in paragraph (1) of this
 39 subsection, each circuit which has more than four superior court judges shall be eligible
 40 for additional state grants. ~~For each superior court judge who exceeds the base of four~~
 41 ~~judges, the circuit shall be eligible for an additional grant in an amount equal to~~
 42 ~~one-fourth of the base amount of the state grant~~ in the amount of \$25,000.00 per superior
 43 court judgeship exceeding four judges in such circuit;

44 (3) In circuits where the superior court judges elect to use the state grant for one or more
 45 part-time judges, the amount of the state grant shall be as follows; provided, however,
 46 that such grant shall not exceed the amount the circuit is eligible to receive under
 47 paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subsection:

48 (A) For each part-time judge who works one day
 49 weekly ~~\$17,000.00~~ \$20,000.00

50 (B) For each part-time judge who works two days
 51 weekly ~~34,000.00~~ 40,000.00

52 (C) For each part-time judge who works three
 53 days weekly ~~51,000.00~~ 60,000.00

54 (D) For each part-time judge who works four
 55 days weekly ~~68,000.00;~~ 80,000.00; and

56 ~~provided, however, that a grant for one or more part-time judges shall not exceed the~~
 57 ~~amount the circuit is eligible for in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2) of this~~
 58 ~~subsection; and~~

59 (4) All state grants provided by this subsection shall be spent solely on salaries for
60 juvenile court judges and shall not be used for any other purposes."

61 **SECTION 2-2.**

62 Said title is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Code Section 15-11-54, relating
63 to the administration and expenses of juvenile courts, as follows:

64 "(c) Except for state ~~base~~ grants provided by Code Section 15-11-52, all expenditures of
65 the court are declared to be an expense of the court and payable out of the county treasury
66 with the approval of the governing authority or governing authorities of the county or
67 counties for which the juvenile court judge is appointed."

68 **PART III**

69 **SECTION 3-1.**

70 (a) This part and Part I of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017.

71 (b) Part II of this Act shall become effective on July 1, 2017, only if funds are appropriated
72 for purposes of Part II of this Act in an appropriations Act enacted at the 2017 regular session
73 of the General Assembly. If funds are not so appropriated, then Part II of this Act shall not
74 become effective and shall stand repealed on July 1, 2017.

75 **SECTION 3-2.**

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