

House Bill 758

By: Representatives Jones of the 62nd, Tarvin of the 2nd, Spencer of the 180th, Waites of the 60th, Douglas of the 78th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 28-11-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 availability of instructional classes and courses and payment of and reimbursement of
3 expenses for members of the General Assembly, so as to require training for members of the
4 General Assembly; to provide for the topics to be covered; to provide for related matters; to
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Code Section 28-11-4 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to availability of
9 instructional classes and courses and payment of and reimbursement of expenses for
10 members of the General Assembly, is amended by revising subsection (a) as follows:

11 "(a) All members of the General Assembly shall be ~~authorized and encouraged~~ required
12 within the first year following their initial election to the General Assembly to attend and
13 complete a series of instructional classes or courses relating to the organization and
14 operation of state government in general, and the role and powers of the General Assembly
15 in particular. Such courses or classes shall be nonpartisan and unbiased and shall include,
16 but not be limited to, such general topics as the Constitution of the United States and the
17 Georgia Constitution; the role of each branch of state government; the organization of
18 state government; the role of state government in the U.S. federal system; the relationship
19 of state and local government; the economy, history, and demographics of the State of
20 Georgia; sources of state and local revenue; basic economic theory; criminal justice and
21 procedures; diversity and inclusion; and the state budgeting process. Additionally, such
22 courses or classes shall include, but not be limited to, topics specifically related to the
23 General Assembly, such as constitutional and statutory law, bill drafting, the legislative
24 process, committee operations, parliamentary rules of procedure, the appropriation process,
25 legislative customs and traditions, duties and responsibilities of members, ethics and rules
26 of conduct, legislative oversight of the executive branch, local legislation, constituent

27 service, legislative use of computers, the Internet, distance learning, public policy issues
28 on the legislative agenda, and such other matters as deemed necessary and appropriate by
29 the board. Such training shall be developed, arranged, and administered through joint
30 cooperation and consultation of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the
31 House of Representatives."

32 **SECTION 2.**

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