

Senate Bill 18

By: Senators Albers of the 56th, Summers of the 13th, Hodges of the 3rd, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd 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 for related
4 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

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

10 "(C) In addition to any other compensation and allowances authorized for members of
11 the General Assembly, each member may be reimbursed for per diem differential and
12 for actual expenses incurred in the performance of duties as a member of the General
13 Assembly in an amount not to exceed ~~\$7,000.00~~ \$33,000.00 per year for each senator
14 and not to exceed \$11,000.00 per year for each representative. Expenses reimbursable
15 up to such amount shall be limited to one or more of the following purposes: lodging,
16 meals, per diem differential, postage, personal services, printing and publications, rents,

17 supplies (including software), telecommunications, transportation, utilities, purchasing
18 or leasing of equipment, and other reasonable expenditures directly related to the
19 performance of a member's duties. If equipment purchased by a member has a
20 depreciated value of \$100.00 or less when such member leaves office, the equipment
21 does not need to be returned to the state. No reimbursement shall be made for any
22 postage which is used for a political newsletter. No reimbursement shall be paid for
23 lodging or meals for any day for which a member receives the daily expense allowance
24 as provided in this paragraph. Eligible expenses shall be reimbursed following the
25 submission of vouchers to the legislative fiscal office in compliance with the
26 requirements of this subparagraph and subject to the provisions of subparagraph (E) of
27 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 **SECTION 2.**

40 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.