

House Bill 1541 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Allen of the 40<sup>th</sup>, Thomas of the 39<sup>th</sup>, Anulewicz of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Seabaugh of the 34<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 41<sup>st</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff,  
2 and the judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,  
3 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act  
4 approved April 28, 2016 (Ga. L. 2016, p. 3896), and by an Act approved May 2, 2017 (Ga.  
5 L. 2017, p. 3617), so as to change the compensation of the sheriff, chief deputy, the assistant  
6 chief deputy, and the executive assistant to the sheriff; to provide for related matters; to  
7 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff, and the  
11 judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,  
12 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act  
13 approved April 28, 2016 (Ga. L. 2016, p. 3896), and by an Act approved May 2, 2017 (Ga.  
14 L. 2017, p. 3617), is amended by revising Section 5 as follows:

H. B. 1541 (SUB)

## 15 "SECTION 5.

16 (a) The sheriff of Cobb County shall be paid an amount not to exceed \$192,000.00 per  
17 year in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb County.

18 (b) The sheriff of Cobb County shall have one chief deputy whose salary shall be no less  
19 than \$168,000.00 and no more than \$172,000.00 per year, approved by the governing  
20 authority of Cobb County to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb  
21 County. The chief deputy sheriff shall possess the same qualifications for office as  
22 required for the sheriff. The chief deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. Each  
23 candidate for the office of sheriff of Cobb County shall, at the time he or she qualifies to  
24 run for the office of sheriff, designate and certify to the judge of the probate court the name  
25 of the person who shall be his or her chief deputy sheriff. In the event the office of sheriff  
26 becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled until the  
27 next general election by said chief deputy, who shall in such event enter upon the  
28 performance of said duties upon taking the oath of office prescribed by law for the sheriff  
29 of Cobb County. The chief deputy sheriff is authorized, when directed by the sheriff, to  
30 discharge any and all of the duties and powers of the sheriff. In addition to said chief  
31 deputy, said sheriff shall be authorized to name and appoint such additional deputies as  
32 shall be approved from time to time by the governing authority of Cobb County. The  
33 salaries of said additional deputies shall be set by the governing authority of Cobb County;  
34 provided, however, that said salaries shall not be less than \$4,880.00 per annum per each  
35 additional deputy approved by said governing authority of Cobb County. In addition to  
36 said chief deputy and other deputies provided for in this subsection, the sheriff of Cobb  
37 County shall be authorized to employ the clerical help necessary to perform properly the  
38 functions and duties of his or her office, provided that the number of employees and  
39 salaries or other compensation to be paid to each shall first be approved by the governing  
40 authority of Cobb County.

41 (c) In addition to those employees provided for by subsection (b) of this section, there is  
42 created the office of assistant chief deputy for Cobb County. The assistant chief deputy  
43 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,  
44 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The individual appointed by the sheriff of  
45 Cobb County shall possess, at a minimum, a high school education or its equivalent and  
46 shall either be a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy for  
47 Peace Officers, possess ten years of actual experience as a peace officer, be a graduate of  
48 a law school accredited by the Georgia Bar Association, be a graduate of the Southern  
49 Police Institute School of Police Management and Administration, or have a master's  
50 degree from an accredited college or university. The salary of the assistant chief deputy  
51 shall be no less than \$163,000.00 and no more than \$168,000.00 per year, approved by the  
52 governing authority of Cobb County to be paid in equal monthly installments from the  
53 funds of Cobb County.

54 (d) In addition to those employees provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section,  
55 there is created the position of executive assistant to the sheriff. The executive assistant  
56 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,  
57 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The sheriff shall establish such qualifications,  
58 education, and experience as he or she deems necessary for the individual appointed to the  
59 position of executive assistant. The salary of the executive assistant shall be no less  
60 than \$82,050.00 and no more than \$87,250.00 per year, approved by the governing  
61 authority of Cobb County to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb  
62 County."

63 **SECTION 2.**

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