

House Bill 355 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Carson of the 46th, Teasley of the 37th, Ehrhart of the 36th, Reeves of the 34th, Smith of the 41st, 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 May 12, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3702), an Act approved May 6, 2013 (Ga. L. 2013,
5 p. 4150), an Act approved April 10, 2014 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4269), and an Act approved May
6 12, 2015 (Ga. L. 2015, p. 4281), so as to change the compensation of the chief deputy, the
7 assistant chief deputy, and the executive assistant to the sheriff; to provide for related
8 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

11 An Act changing the compensation of the clerk of the superior court, the sheriff, and the
12 judge of the Probate Court of Cobb County from the fee system to the salary system,
13 approved February 9, 1949 (Ga. L. 1949, p. 427), as amended, particularly by an Act
14 approved May 12, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3702), an Act approved May 6, 2013 (Ga. L. 2013,
15 p. 4150), an Act approved April 10, 2014 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4269), and an Act approved May
16 12, 2015 (Ga. L. 2015, p. 4281), is amended by revising subsections (b), (c), and (d) of
17 Section 5 as follows:

18 "(b) The sheriff of Cobb County shall have one chief deputy whose salary shall be
19 \$138,839.13 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb
20 County. The chief deputy sheriff shall possess the same qualifications for office as
21 required for the sheriff. The chief deputy shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. Each
22 candidate for the office of sheriff of Cobb County shall, at the time he or she qualifies to
23 run for the office of sheriff, designate and certify to the judge of the probate court the name
24 of the person who shall be his or her chief deputy sheriff. In the event the office of sheriff
25 becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, the vacancy shall be filled until the
26 next general election by said chief deputy, who shall in such event enter upon the

27 performance of said duties upon taking the oath of office prescribed by law for the sheriff
28 of Cobb County. The chief deputy sheriff is authorized, when directed by the sheriff, to
29 discharge any and all of the duties and powers of the sheriff. In addition to said chief
30 deputy, said sheriff shall be authorized to name and appoint such additional deputies as
31 shall be approved from time to time by the governing authority of Cobb County. The
32 salaries of said additional deputies shall be set by the governing authority of Cobb County;
33 provided, however, that said salaries shall not be less than \$4,880.00 per annum per each
34 additional deputy approved by said governing authority of Cobb County. In addition to
35 said chief deputy and other deputies provided for in this subsection, the sheriff of Cobb
36 County shall be authorized to employ the clerical help necessary to perform properly the
37 functions and duties of his or her office, provided that the number of employees and
38 salaries or other compensation to be paid to each shall first be approved by the governing
39 authority of Cobb County.

40 (c) In addition to those employees provided for by subsection (b) of this section, there is
41 created the office of assistant chief deputy for Cobb County. The assistant chief deputy
42 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,
43 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The individual appointed by the sheriff of
44 Cobb County shall possess, at a minimum, a high school education or its equivalent and
45 shall either be a graduate of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy for
46 Peace Officers or possess ten years of actual experience as a peace officer or be a graduate
47 of a law school accredited by the Georgia Bar Association or be a graduate of the Southern
48 Police Institute School of Police Management and Administration or have a master's degree
49 from an accredited college or university. The salary of the assistant chief deputy shall be
50 \$125,976.83 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb
51 County.

52 (d) In addition to those employees provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section,
53 there is created the position of executive assistant to the sheriff. The executive assistant
54 shall be appointed by the sheriff, shall be under his or her direct supervision and control,
55 and shall serve at the pleasure of the sheriff. The sheriff shall establish such qualifications,
56 education, and experience as he or she deems necessary for the individual appointed to the
57 position of executive assistant. The salary of the executive assistant shall be \$75,692.46
58 per annum, to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Cobb County."

59 **SECTION 2.**

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