

Senate Bill 254

By: Senator Lucas of the 26th

**AS PASSED**

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED**

**AN ACT**

1 To amend an Act to abolish the present model of compensating the Tax Commissioner of  
 2 Twiggs County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p.  
 3 2724), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 5135),  
 4 and an Act approved March 25, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4177), so as to change the manner of  
 5 fixing salary adjustments or allowances of the tax commissioner and employees of the tax  
 6 commissioner's office; to provide the tax commissioner with the authority to fix the  
 7 compensation of employees of the tax commissioner's office; to provide an effective date;  
 8 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10

**SECTION 1.**

11 An Act to abolish the present model of compensating the Tax Commissioner of Twiggs  
 12 County, known as the fee system, approved February 18, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 2724), as  
 13 amended, particularly by an Act approved March 31, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 5135), and an Act  
 14 approved March 25, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 4177), is amended by revising paragraph (1) of  
 15 subsection (b) of Section 2 as follows:

16 "(1) On or after the effective date of this subsection, when the Board of Commissioners  
 17 of Twiggs County make a cost-of-living adjustment or a cost-of-living allowance, also  
 18 known as a 'COLA', to the compensation of county employees, the base salary of the tax  
 19 commissioner provided in subsection (a) of this section, plus any previous adjustments  
 20 which have been received by the tax commissioner under this paragraph after the  
 21 effective date of this paragraph, shall receive the same COLA. For the purposes of this  
 22 section, a COLA must be designated as such by the Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
 23 County, and shall be limited to a percentage increase in the employees' compensation for  
 24 the specific purpose of covering the cost of inflation, which influences the cost of living  
 25 expenses such as rent, food, gas, and clothing. The Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
 26 County shall have the sole discretion as to the amount, if any, of a COLA."

27 **SECTION 2.**

28 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 4 as follows:

29 **"SECTION 4.**

30 The Tax Commissioner of Twiggs County, Georgia shall have the authority to appoint such  
31 deputies, clerks, assistants, and other personnel as said officer deems necessary to discharge  
32 the official duties of the office of the tax commissioner. The tax commissioner shall have  
33 the power and authority, during his or her term of office, to designate and name the person  
34 or persons who shall be employed as such deputies, clerks, assistants, or other employees;  
35 to prescribe their duties and assignments; to remove and replace such employees at will and  
36 within said officer's sole discretion; and to fix the compensation to be received by each  
37 employee within the budgetary constraints established by the Board of Commissioners of  
38 Twiggs County."

39 **SECTION 3.**

40 Said Act is further amended by revising subsection (c) of Section 5 as follows:

41 "(c) On or after the effective date of this subsection, when the Board of Commissioners of  
42 Twiggs County make a cost-of-living adjustment or a cost-of-living allowance, also known  
43 as a 'COLA', to the compensation of county employees, the compensation of the employees  
44 of the tax commissioner's office shall receive the same COLA. For the purposes of this  
45 section, a COLA must be designated as such by the Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
46 County, and shall be limited to a percentage increase in the employees' compensation for  
47 the specific purpose of covering the cost of inflation, which influences the cost of living  
48 expenses such as rent, food, gas, and clothing. The Board of Commissioners of Twiggs  
49 County shall have the sole discretion as to the amount, if any, of a COLA."

50 **SECTION 4.**

51 This Act shall become effective on the first day of the month following the month in which  
52 it is approved by the Governor or in which it becomes law without such approval.

53 **SECTION 5.**

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