

Senate Bill 454

By: Senator Lee of the 29th

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide for the nonpartisan nomination and election of the chief magistrate of Meriwether
2 County; to provide for the requirements and procedures of the nonpartisan nomination and
3 election; to provide for other matters relative to the foregoing; to provide for the authority
4 for this Act; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 The chief magistrate of Meriwether County shall be elected by the qualified voters of
8 Meriwether County in a nonpartisan primary and election. Except as otherwise provided in
9 this Act, the chief magistrate shall be elected pursuant to the general elections laws of
10 Georgia.

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Beginning with the election held in 2004 and every four years thereafter, the chief magistrate
13 shall be elected at the nonpartisan primary and general election immediately preceding the
14 expiration of the term of office of the chief magistrate and shall take office on January 1
15 immediately following such election for a term of four years and until such judge's successor
16 is elected and qualified.

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 Candidates for the office of chief magistrate shall be nominated in a nonpartisan primary to
19 be held at the same time as and in conjunction with the general primary every four years. A
20 nominating petition shall not be required to place the name of any such candidate on the
21 primary ballot. A candidate may have his or her name placed on the primary ballot by filing
22 a notice of candidacy with the county election superintendent and by paying the qualifying
23 fee.

