

House Bill 1837 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Mangham of the 75th, Drenner of the 66th, Sailor of the 71st, Watson of the 70th, Teper of the 61st and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the State Court of Dekalb County, formerly known as the Civil
2 and Criminal Court of Dekalb County, approved February 14, 1951 (Ga. L. 1951, p. 2401),
3 as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 6, 1956 (Ga. L. 1956, p. 3137), an Act
4 approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2862), an Act approved March 31, 1976 (Ga. L.
5 1976, p. 3488), an Act approved April 12, 1985 (Ga. L. 1985, p. 5140), an Act approved
6 April 2, 1987 (Ga. L. 1987, p. 5449), and an Act approved April 4, 1997 (Ga. L. 1997, p.
7 3720), so as to add a judge to said court; to provide for the appointment, election, and term
8 of office of the additional judge and successors to the judge; to continue the existing terms
9 of the present judges of the court; to provide an effective date; to provide for related matters;
10 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

13 An Act to create the State Court of Dekalb County, formerly known as the Civil and
14 Criminal Court of Dekalb County, approved February 14, 1951 (Ga. L. 1951, p. 2401),as
15 amended, particularly by an Act approved March 6, 1956 (Ga. L. 1956, p.3137), an Act
16 approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2862), an Act approved March 31, 1976 (Ga. L.
17 1976, p. 3488), an Act approved April12, 1985 (Ga. L. 1985, p. 5140), an Act approved
18 April 2, 1987 (Ga. L. 1987, p. 5449), and an Act approved April 4, 1997 (Ga. L. 1997, p.
19 3720), is amended by striking Section 6 in its entirety and substituting in lieu thereof a new
20 Section 6 to read as follows:

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

22 Effective January 1, 2003, there shall be seven judges of the State Court of Dekalb County.
23 The six judges in office on January 1, 2003, shall continue to serve the terms of office to
24 which they were elected. The seventh judge added by this section shall be appointed by
25 the Governor for an initial term of office ending on December 31, 2004, and until a

1 successor is elected and qualified. Successors to the six judges in office on January 1,
2 2003, and successors to the seventh judge added on that date shall be elected at the general
3 election in the year in which their respective terms of office expire and shall serve for terms
4 of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified."

5 **SECTION 1A.**

6 Said Act is further amended in Section 11B by striking the word "by" in the last sentence of
7 Section 11B and inserting in lieu thereof the word "at", so that when so amended said last
8 sentence shall read as follows: "All costs provided for under this section shall be paid at the
9 clerk's office at the time of filing." The provisions of this Act shall supersede the provisions
10 of HB1649 enacted at the 2002 Session of the General Assembly. Notwithstanding Section
11 2 of this Act, this section shall become effective on July 1, 2002.

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2003, except that the Governor is authorized
14 to appoint the additional judge added by Section 1 of this Act prior to that date, but any
15 person appointed shall not take office until January 1, 2003.

16 **SECTION 3.**

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