

Senators Crotts of the 17th, Johnson of the 1st, Williams of the 6th, Guhl of the 45th, Stephens of the 51st and others offered the following substitute to HB 16:

OUT OF ORDER

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To provide for a state-wide nonbinding advisory referendum for changing the state flag; to
2 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

4 **SECTION 1.**

5 Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the Secretary of
6 State shall call and conduct a special election as provided in this section for the purpose of
7 submitting a nonbinding advisory referendum to the electors of the State of Georgia
8 regarding changing the flag of this state. The Secretary of State shall conduct that special
9 election on the date of the 2002 general election. The Secretary of State shall issue the call
10 and conduct that special election as provided by general law. The Secretary of State shall
11 cause the date and purpose of the special election to be published once a week for two weeks
12 immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of each county in the state. The
13 ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

14 "() YES Shall the flag of the State of Georgia be changed to one which contains the
15 great seal of the state encircled by 13 white five-pointed stars on a blue
16 () NO background, beneath which is a gold ribbon bearing the words 'Georgia's
17 History' with a representation horizontally underneath of five smaller flags
18 which have at one time flown over this state, beneath which representations
19 the phrase 'In God We Trust' is written?"

20 All persons desiring to vote for changing the flag shall vote 'Yes,' and those persons desiring
21 to vote against changing the flag shall vote 'No.' The Secretary of State shall certify the
22 results of the special election.

23 **SECTION 2.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.