

House Bill 477

By: Representatives Buck of the 135<sup>th</sup>, Smyre of the 136<sup>th</sup>, Hugley of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, Taylor of the 134<sup>th</sup>, Smith of the 102<sup>nd</sup> and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for a new charter for the county-wide government of Columbus,  
2 Georgia, approved April 5, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4978), as amended, so as to change certain  
3 provisions regarding jurisdiction of the recorder's court; to repeal conflicting laws; and for  
4 other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 An Act providing for a new charter for the county-wide government of Columbus, Georgia,  
8 approved April 5, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4978), as amended, is amended by striking Section  
9 5-601 and inserting in its place a new Section 5-601 to read as follows:

10 "SECTION 5-601.

11 Jurisdiction.

12 The recorder's court shall continue with all the rights, authority, power, and jurisdiction  
13 now possessed under all present laws applicable to said court; and in addition thereto, the  
14 recorder's court shall be and is hereby empowered and authorized and given jurisdiction  
15 to accept pleas of guilty or nolo contendere and to impose punishment and penalties  
16 provided by laws of the State of Georgia, but not greater than the penalties and punishment  
17 the recorder's court may now or hereafter be authorized to impose for violations of  
18 ordinances, in cases involving defendants charged with violating any and all criminal laws  
19 of the State of Georgia relating to traffic upon the public roads, streets, and highways of  
20 this state; violations of the laws of the State of Georgia contained in Chapter 6 of Title 40  
21 of the O.C.G.A., as now amended and as hereafter amended by the State of Georgia;  
22 violations of the laws of the State of Georgia requiring the registration and licensing of  
23 motor vehicles as required by Chapter 2 of Title 40 of the O.C.G.A., as now amended and  
24 as hereafter amended by the State of Georgia; and violations of laws of the State of Georgia

1 relating to motor vehicle drivers' licenses as contained in Chapter 5 of Title 40 of the  
2 O.C.G.A., as now amended and as hereafter amended by the State of Georgia and all other  
3 state laws relating to motor vehicle drivers' licenses; where the penalty for these offenses  
4 does not exceed that of the grade of misdemeanors, where a preliminary hearing is waived  
5 in writing by the accused and a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is entered by the accused  
6 in writing. Provided, however, that in the case of uncontested parking citations, exclusive  
7 jurisdiction is given to the Department of Transportation/METRA. The jurisdiction and  
8 powers of the recorder's court shall extend throughout the territory of the consolidated  
9 government."

10

**SECTION 2.**

11

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