

Senate Bill 222

By: Senators Johnson of the 1st and Thomas of the 2nd

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend an Act creating the State Court of Chatham County, approved December 18, 1819
2 (Ga. L. 1819, p. 16), as amended, so as to provide for an additional judge of the State Court
3 of Chatham County; to provide for the election, powers, duties, jurisdiction, privileges,
4 immunities, and compensation of said additional judge; to authorize the governing authority
5 of Chatham County to provide facilities, office space, supplies, equipment, and personnel for
6 said judge; to provide for other matters relative to the foregoing; to provide an effective date;
7 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act creating the State Court of Chatham County, approved December 18, 1819 (Ga. L.
11 1819, p. 16), as amended, is amended by striking Section 2A and inserting in its place a new
12 Section 2A to read as follows:

13 **"SECTION 2A.**

14 There shall be an additional judge of the State Court of Chatham County. Such additional
15 judge shall be elected in the manner provided by law for the election of judges of the state
16 courts of this state at the general election in November, 2002, for a term of four years and
17 until his or her successor shall have been elected and qualified and shall take office on the
18 first day of January immediately following such judge's election. The two judges of the
19 State Court of Chatham County in office on the effective date of this Act shall continue to
20 serve the remainder of the terms of office to which they were elected and until their
21 successors are elected and qualified. Future successors shall be elected at the general
22 election conducted immediately prior to the expiration of the term of office, and they shall
23 take office on the first day of January following their election and shall serve for a term of
24 office of four years and until their successors are duly elected and qualified. Said additional
25 judge shall have and may exercise all powers, duties, jurisdictions, privileges, and

1 immunities of the present judges of the State Court of Chatham County. Any of the judges
2 of said court may preside over any cause and perform any official act as judge thereof. The
3 compensation of the additional judge shall be the same as that provided for other judges
4 of the State Court of Chatham County. Upon request of the additional judge, the governing
5 authority of Chatham County is authorized to furnish the additional judge with suitable
6 courtroom space and facilities, office space, office equipment, supplies, and such personnel
7 as may be considered necessary by the court to the proper function of the court. All of the
8 expenditures authorized herein are declared to be an expense of court and payable out of
9 the county treasury as such."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2002.

12 **SECTION 3.**

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