

Senate Bill 9

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

AS PASSED

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 effective dates;
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 judgeship of the State Court of Chatham County. The initial
15 judge to serve in such additional judgeship shall be elected in the manner provided by law
16 for the election of judges of the state courts of this state at the general election in
17 November, 2004, for a term of four years and until his or her successor shall have been
18 elected and qualified and shall take office on the first day of January immediately
19 following such judge's election. The two judges of the State Court of Chatham County in
20 office on the effective date of this Act shall continue to serve the remainder of the terms
21 of office to which they were elected and until their successors are elected and qualified.
22 Future successors shall be elected at the general election conducted immediately prior to
23 the expiration of the term of office, and they shall take office on the first day of January
24 following their election and shall serve for a term of office of four years and until their
25 successors are duly elected and qualified. Said additional judge shall have and may
26 exercise all powers, duties, jurisdictions, privileges, and immunities of the present judges

1 of the State Court of Chatham County. Any of the judges of said court may preside over
2 any cause and perform any official act as judge thereof. The compensation of the
3 additional judge shall be the same as that provided for other judges of the State Court of
4 Chatham County. Upon request of the additional judge, the governing authority of
5 Chatham County is authorized to furnish the additional judge with suitable courtroom
6 space and facilities, office space, office equipment, supplies, and such personnel as may
7 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 (a) The provisions of this Act necessary for the general election in November, 2004, as
12 provided in Section 1 of this Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor
13 or upon its becoming law without such approval.

14 (b) For all other purposes, this Act shall become effective on January 1, 2005.

15 **SECTION 3.**

16 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.