

House Bill 801 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Purcell of the 122nd and Stephens of the 123rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief magistrate of Effingham County shall
2 be nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act under the federal Voting
3 Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date;
4 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 All elections for the office of chief magistrate of Effingham County conducted after the
8 effective date of this Act shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section
9 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. Such nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction with the
10 November general election immediately preceding expiration of the term of office and
11 conducted as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

12 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

13 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the chief magistrate of Effingham
14 County in office on the effective date of this Act. The sitting chief magistrate shall serve out
15 the term of office for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself or
16 herself as provided in this Act.

17 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 3.**

18 The governing authority of Effingham County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act
19 to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended;
20 and such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with
21 the appropriate court no later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the
22 Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

1 **SECTION 4.**

2 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
3 without such approval.

4 **SECTION 5.**

5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.