

Senate Bill 373

By: Senator Hudgens of the 47th

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

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

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

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 All elections for the office of probate judge of Madison County and for the office of chief
9 magistrate of Madison County conducted after the effective date of this Act shall be
10 nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. Such
11 nonpartisan elections shall be held and conducted as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the
12 O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the probate judge of Madison County
15 or chief magistrate of Madison County in office on the effective date of this Act. The sitting
16 probate judge and sitting chief magistrate shall serve out the respective terms of office for
17 which such person was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself as provided
18 in this Act.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 The governing authority of Madison County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to
21 be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and
22 such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with the
23 appropriate court no later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the
24 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5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.