

The House Committee on State Planning & Community Affairs - Local Legislation offered the following substitute to SB 332:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

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

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

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

13 **SECTION 2.**

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

18 **SECTION 3.**

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

