

House Bill 848 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Lane of the 101<sup>st</sup>, Barnard of the 121<sup>st</sup>, Post 1, Parrish of the 102<sup>nd</sup>, DeLoach of the 127<sup>th</sup>, and Oliver of the 121<sup>st</sup>, Post 2

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief magistrate of Bulloch County shall be  
2 nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act under the federal Voting Rights  
3 Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to  
4 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 Bulloch 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 and conducted as  
10 provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

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

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

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

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5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.