

House Bill 1589

By: Representatives Hill of the 81st, Jordan of the 83rd, Heckstall of the 48th, Post 3, Mosby of the 59th, Post 3, Fludd of the 48th, Post 4, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide that the governing authority of Clayton County shall hold a nonbinding
2 referendum asking the electors whether law enforcement services should be consolidated
3 under the office of the sheriff; to provide ballot language; to provide for related matters; 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 The governing authority of Clayton County shall submit to the qualified electors of the
8 county the question of whether the county police force should be consolidated under the
9 office of sheriff. Such referendum shall be held at the time of the general election in 2004.
10 The election superintendent shall issue the call for the election and shall specify that the
11 election shall be held on such date. The election superintendent shall cause the date and
12 purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding
13 the date thereof in the official organ of the county. The ballot shall have written or printed
14 thereon the following:

15 " () YES Shall the law enforcement services provided by the Clayton County
16 police force be consolidated under the office of sheriff of Clayton
17 () NO County?"

18 Those persons desiring to vote in favor of consolidating all law enforcement services of the
19 county police force under the office of sheriff in the county shall vote "Yes," and those
20 persons in favor of maintaining law enforcement services under the county police force or
21 consolidated government police force shall vote "No." The results of such referendum shall
22 not bind the governing authority to take any action but shall be advisory. The county election
23 superintendent shall hold and conduct the election under the same rules and regulations as
24 govern special elections. He or she shall canvas the returns and declare and certify the result
25 of the election to the Secretary of State. The expense of any such election shall be borne by
26 the county wherein the election was held.

1 **SECTION 2.**

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.