05 LC 25 3794

House Bill 15

By: Representatives Bearden of the 68<sup>th</sup>, Hatfield of the 177<sup>th</sup>, Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>, England of the 108<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 29<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

- 1 To provide for the holding of an advisory referendum election to determine whether the
- 2 qualified electors of the State of Georgia desire a change in the state flag; to provide for
- 3 related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
- 4 purposes.

5

## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

- 7 (a) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to issue the call for an advisory referendum
- 8 election to determine whether the qualified electors of the State of Georgia desire that the
- 9 state flag adopted under Ga. L. 2003, p. 26, Section 1 (approved May 8, 2003) be changed.
- 10 The Secretary of State shall conduct the referendum election as provided in this section on
- 11 the date of the November, 2006, general election. The Secretary of State shall issue the call
- 12 and conduct that referendum election as provided by general law.
- 13 (b) The ballot at the referendum election provided under this section shall have displayed
- 14 or printed thereon the following:
- 15 "( ) 1956 FLAG **VOTE FOR ONLY ONE CHOICE:** Should the State of Georgia
- return to the 1956 Flag adopted at the 1956 Session of the General
- 17 ( ) 2003 FLAG Assembly or keep the 2003 Flag adopted at the 2003 Session of the
- 18 General Assembly?"
- 19 The Secretary of State shall include pictures of the 1956 Flag and the 2003 Flag in
- 20 appropriate positions on the ballot to assist the voters and facilitate the voting process, and
- 21 if necessary to save significant printing costs a picture of the two flags may be attached to
- 22 absentee ballots rather than appearing on the actual absentee ballot.
- 23 (c) It shall be the duty of the Secretary of State to tabulate and certify the results of the
- 24 referendum election and report said results to the Governor and the General Assembly
- 25 immediately following such certification.

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SECTION 2.

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

4 SECTION 3.

5 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.