

House Bill 766 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Dukes of the 150th, Rynders of the 152nd, and Sims of the 151st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the Small Claims Court of Dougherty County, now the Magistrate
2 Court of Dougherty County, approved March 24, 1976 (Ga. L. 1976, p. 3164), as amended,
3 particularly by an Act approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3844), so as to change the
4 number of full-time magistrates serving in such court; to provide an effective date; to repeal
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act creating the Small Claims Court of Dougherty County, now the Magistrate Court of
9 Dougherty County, approved March 24, 1976 (Ga. L. 1976, p. 3164), as amended,
10 particularly by an Act approved March 27, 1998 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 3844), is amended by
11 striking Section 3 of said Act and inserting in its place the following:

12 "SECTION 3.

13 On and after July 1, 2005, there shall be a chief magistrate and not more than two
14 additional full-time magistrates to serve as judges of the Magistrate Court of Dougherty
15 County. These magistrates shall be appointed by the chief judge of the State Court of
16 Dougherty County. The chief judge shall, on January 1 of each year, designate one of the
17 magistrates to be the chief magistrate for the ensuing calendar year and until a new chief
18 magistrate is designated. Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, magistrates
19 shall be appointed to take office on January 1 for a term of four years and until their
20 respective successors are appointed and qualified."

21 **SECTION 2.**

22 This Act shall become effective on July 1, 2005.

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SECTION 3.

2 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.