

House Bill 1544

By: Representatives Mumford of the 95<sup>th</sup>, Stephenson of the 92<sup>nd</sup>, and Mangham of the 94<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that the chief magistrate and other magistrates of the Magistrate Court of  
2 Rockdale County meet certain qualifications to hold office; to provide that such chief  
3 magistrate and other magistrates must have actively practiced law for at least three years in  
4 this state immediately before taking office; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 In addition to any other qualifications for office imposed by general or local law, the chief  
9 magistrate and other magistrates of the Magistrate Court of Rockdale County must have  
10 actively practiced law for at least three years in this state immediately before taking office.

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the chief magistrate or any other  
13 magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Rockdale County in office on the effective date of this  
14 Act. Such chief magistrate and other magistrates shall serve out their respective terms of  
15 office. Such chief magistrate and other magistrates shall be eligible to succeed himself or  
16 herself provided that he or she meets the qualifications prescribed by law and by this Act.

17 **SECTION 3.**

18 The governing authority of Rockdale County shall, through its legal counsel, cause this Act  
19 to be submitted for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of  
20 1965, as amended, within 60 days after the date that this Act is approved by the Governor  
21 or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.