

House Bill 1011

By: Representatives Williams of the 165<sup>th</sup>, Barnard of the 166<sup>th</sup>, and Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act establishing the State Court of Liberty County (formerly the City Court of  
2 Hinesville), approved August 9, 1916 (Ga. L. 1916, p. 232), as amended, particularly by an  
3 Act approved March 9, 1959 (Ga. L. 1959, p. 2560), so as to establish the office of judge of  
4 the State Court of Liberty County as a full-time office; to provide for the remaining term of  
5 the current judge; to provide that successor judges shall be elected in nonpartisan elections;  
6 to provide for qualifications; to provide for the judge's salary; to provide an effective date;  
7 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act establishing the State Court of Liberty County (formerly the City Court of  
11 Hinesville), approved August 9, 1916 (Ga. L. 1916, p. 232), as amended, particularly by an  
12 Act approved March 9, 1959 (Ga. L. 1959, p. 2560), is amended by striking Section 4 in its  
13 entirety and inserting in its place a new Section 4 to read as follows:

14 "SECTION 4.

15 (a) There shall be a judge of the State Court of Liberty County. The judge of the State  
16 Court of Liberty County serving on the effective date of this Act shall continue to serve for  
17 the remainder of his or her term and until his or her successor has been duly elected and  
18 qualified. Thereafter, successors to judges of the State Court of Liberty County whose  
19 terms of office are to expire shall be nominated in a nonpartisan general primary and  
20 elected at the nonpartisan general election immediately preceding such expiration of term,  
21 shall take office the first day of January immediately following such election, and shall  
22 serve for a term of office of four years and until the election and qualification of a  
23 successor.

24 (b) The judge of said court shall have such qualifications and shall be subject to such  
25 restrictions and discipline as provided in Chapter 7 of Title 15 of the Official Code of

1 Georgia Annotated. He or she shall be vested with all the power and authority of the  
2 judges of the state courts by Chapter 7 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia  
3 Annotated.

4 (c) The judge of said court shall devote full time to the duties of office, and shall not  
5 engage in the private practice of law. Said judge shall be paid a minimum annual salary  
6 in an amount equal to the annual base salary set by the General Assembly for judges of the  
7 superior courts, together with such other supplements, if any, as may be deemed  
8 appropriate from time to time by the governing authority of Liberty County. Said salary  
9 shall be payable out of the funds of Liberty County in equal monthly installments."

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
12 without such approval.

13 **SECTION 3.**

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