

House Resolution 1683

By: Representative Scott of the 153rd

A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide for the creation of regional
 2 grand juries and authorize the General Assembly to specify procedures for regional grand
 3 juries; to provide for the jurisdiction, powers, and duties of regional grand juries; to authorize
 4 the General Assembly to provide by law for procedures for selecting and summoning the
 5 members of regional grand juries; to provide for a presiding judge; to provide for the
 6 submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 SECTION 1.

9 Article VI of the Constitution is revised by adding a new Section XI to read as follows:

10 SECTION XI.
 11 REGIONAL GRAND JURIES

12 Paragraph I. *Regional grand juries.* (a) Regional grand juries with investigative powers
 13 are authorized. The General Assembly shall provide by law for procedures for the
 14 convening and operation of such regional grand juries and shall provide for geographic
 15 regions within which such regional grand juries may operate. There shall be a presiding
 16 judge who shall be selected as provided by law. The General Assembly shall provide by
 17 law for the duties of the presiding judge, the manner of selecting and summoning the
 18 members of regional grand juries, and the duration and terms of such regional grand juries.

19 (b) The subject matter jurisdiction of regional grand juries shall extend to the
 20 investigation and indictment of persons or other legal entities for any crime as may be
 21 provided by law by the General Assembly.

22 (c) Any regional grand jury shall have the authority to conduct investigations into
 23 matters within its subject matter jurisdiction without the prior presentment of a proposed
 24 bill of indictment for its consideration and may compel evidence as provided by law."

25 **SECTION 2.**

26 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as
27 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the
28 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

29 "() YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to authorize the creation
30 of regional grand juries and authorize the General Assembly to specify
31 () NO procedures for regional grand juries?"

32 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."
33 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If
34 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall
35 become a part of the Constitution of this state.