

House Bill 14

By: Representatives Levitas of the 82<sup>nd</sup>, Wilkinson of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Jacobs of the 80<sup>th</sup>, Powell of the 29<sup>th</sup>, Carter of the 175<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the nonpartisan election of sheriffs,  
3 district attorneys, and solicitor generals; to provide for the qualifying for such offices; to  
4 provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and  
8 primaries generally, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (c) and subparagraph  
9 (i)(1)(B) of Code Section 21-2-132, relating to filing notices of candidacy, nomination  
10 petitions, and affidavits, as follows:

11 "(2) Each candidate for a county ~~judicial~~ office, a local school board office, or an office  
12 of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name  
13 placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file notice of candidacy in the office of the  
14 superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in June immediately prior  
15 to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday  
16 in June, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays."

17 "(B) Each candidate for a county ~~judicial~~ office, a local school board office, or an  
18 office of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her  
19 name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy in the  
20 office of the superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the last Monday in July  
21 immediately prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following  
22 the last Monday in July, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal  
23 holidays;"

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-139, relating  
26 to the authorization of nonpartisan elections, as follows:

27 "(a) The office of sheriff, the office of district attorney, and the office of solicitor general  
28 shall be filled by election in nonpartisan elections. Notwithstanding any other provisions  
29 of this chapter to the contrary, the General Assembly may provide by local Act for the  
30 election in nonpartisan elections of candidates to fill other county ~~judicial~~ offices, offices  
31 of local school boards, and offices of consolidated governments which are filled by the vote  
32 of the electors of said county or political subdivision. Except as otherwise provided in this  
33 Code section, the procedures to be employed in such nonpartisan elections shall conform  
34 as nearly as practicable to the procedures governing nonpartisan elections as provided in  
35 this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, the election procedures  
36 established by any existing local law which provides for the nonpartisan election of  
37 candidates to fill county offices shall conform to the general procedures governing  
38 nonpartisan elections as provided in this chapter, and such nonpartisan elections shall be  
39 conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of this chapter, notwithstanding the  
40 provisions of any existing local law. For those offices for which the General Assembly,  
41 pursuant to this Code section, provided by local Act for election in nonpartisan primaries  
42 and elections, such offices shall no longer require nonpartisan primaries. Such officers  
43 shall be elected in nonpartisan elections held and conducted in conjunction with the  
44 November general election in accordance with this chapter without a prior nonpartisan  
45 primary. Nonpartisan elections for municipal offices shall be conducted on the dates  
46 provided in the municipal charter."

47 **SECTION 3.**

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