

House Bill 654 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Hembree of the 67th, Brooks of the 63rd, Bearden of the 68th, and Bruce of the 64th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the State Court of Douglas County, approved April 1, 1999 (Ga.
2 L. 1999, p. 3606), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 13, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008,
3 p. 3847), so as to temporarily delay the addition of a second judge for the State Court of
4 Douglas County; to provide for the appointment of the initial additional judge and the
5 election of successors; to provide for terms of office of said additional judge and successors
6 to such judge; to provide for the compensation and expenses of said additional judge; to
7 provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
8 other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

11 An Act creating the State Court of Douglas County, approved April 1, 1999 (Ga. L. 1999,
12 p. 3606), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 13, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3847),
13 is amended by revising subsections (a), (b), and (d) of Section 11 to read as follows:

14 "(a) Until July 1, 2010, there shall be one judge of the State Court of Douglas County who
15 shall be elected by the qualified voters of Douglas County at the state-wide general election
16 in November, 2002, and quadrennially thereafter, shall take office the first day of January
17 immediately following such election, and shall serve for a term of office of four years and
18 until the election and qualification of a successor, as provided by Chapter 7 of Title 15 and
19 by Title 21 of the O.C.G.A.; provided, however, that the first judge shall be appointed by
20 the Governor for a term of office of 18 months beginning July 1, 2001, and until the
21 election and qualification of a successor.

22 (b) Effective July 1, 2010, there shall be two judges of the State Court of Douglas County.
23 The second judge added effective July 1, 2010, shall be elected by the qualified voters of
24 Douglas County at the state-wide general election in November, 2012, and quadrennially
25 thereafter, shall take office the first day of January immediately following such election,
26 and shall serve for a term of office of four years and until the election and qualification of

27 a successor, as provided by Chapter 7 of Title 15 and by Title 21 of the O.C.G.A.;

28 provided, however, that the initial second judge shall be appointed by the Governor for a

29 term of office of 18 months beginning July 1, 2010, and ending December 31, 2011, and

30 until the election and qualification of a successor."

31 "(d)(1) The judges shall be full-time judges and shall be paid a salary of \$139,035.11.

32 Said salary shall be payable out of the funds of Douglas County at the same intervals as

33 installments are paid to other county officers.

34 (2) Pursuant to Code Section 15-7-22 of the O.C.G.A., the governing authority of

35 Douglas County is authorized to supplement the compensation established by paragraph

36 (1) of this subsection."

37 **SECTION 2.**

38 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law

39 without such approval.

40 **SECTION 3.**

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