

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 4 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to selection and qualification of candidates and presidential electors, so as to provide  
3 for the nonpartisan election of sheriffs, solicitors-general, district attorneys, tax  
4 commissioners, tax receivers, tax collectors, clerks of superior court, coroners, surveyors,  
5 and members of the county governing authorities; to provide for the qualifying for such  
6 offices; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

8 Article 4 of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
9 selection and qualification of candidates and presidential electors, is amended by revising  
10 paragraph (2) of subsection (c) of Code Section 21-2-132, relating to filing notice of  
11 candidacy, nomination petition, and affidavit, payment of qualifying fee, and pauper's  
12 affidavit and qualifying petition for exemption from qualifying fee, as follows:  
13

14 "(2) Each candidate for a county judicial office, a local school board office, or the office  
15 of sheriff, solicitor-general, district attorney, tax commissioner, tax receiver, tax collector,  
16 clerk of superior court, coroner, or surveyor or an office of a consolidated government  
17 a county governing authority, as such term is defined in Code Section 1-3-3, or the  
18 candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name placed on the nonpartisan election  
19 ballot shall file notice of candidacy in the office of the superintendent no earlier than 9:00  
20 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April immediately prior to the election and no later than  
21 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact  
22 that any such days may be legal holidays."

**SECTION 2.**

23 Said article is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-139, relating  
24 to nonpartisan elections authorized and conduct, as follows:  
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26       "(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, the General  
27       Assembly may provide by local Act for the election in nonpartisan elections of candidates  
28       to fill county judicial offices, offices of local school boards, and the offices of sheriff,  
29       solicitor-general, district attorney, tax commissioner, tax receiver, tax collector, clerk of  
30       superior court, coroner, and surveyor, and offices of ~~consolidated governments~~ a county  
31       governing authority, as such term is defined in Code Section 1-3-3, which are filled by the  
32       vote of the electors of said county or political subdivision. Except as otherwise provided  
33       in this Code section, the procedures to be employed in such nonpartisan elections shall  
34       conform as nearly as practicable to the procedures governing nonpartisan elections as  
35       provided in this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this Code section, the election  
36       procedures established by any existing local law which provides for the nonpartisan  
37       election of candidates to fill county offices shall conform to the general procedures  
38       governing nonpartisan elections as provided in this chapter, and such nonpartisan elections  
39       shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of this chapter,  
40       notwithstanding the provisions of any existing local law. For those offices for which the  
41       General Assembly, pursuant to this Code section, provided by local Act for election in  
42       nonpartisan primaries and elections, such offices shall no longer require nonpartisan  
43       primaries. Such officers shall be elected in nonpartisan elections held and conducted in  
44       conjunction with the general primary in even-numbered years in accordance with this  
45       chapter without a prior nonpartisan primary. Nonpartisan elections for municipal offices  
46       shall be conducted on the dates provided in the municipal charter."

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### SECTION 3.

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