

House Bill 1121

By: Representative Sims of the 169<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief magistrate judge of Coffee County  
2 shall be nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance under  
3 the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 All elections for the office of chief magistrate judge of Coffee County conducted after  
8 January 1, 2013, shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section 21-2-139 of  
9 the O.C.G.A. Such nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction with the nonpartisan  
10 general election held immediately preceding the expiration of the term of office of such judge  
11 and conducted as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election  
12 Code."

13 **SECTION 2.**

14 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the chief magistrate judge of Coffee  
15 County in office on January 1, 2013. The sitting chief magistrate judge shall serve out the  
16 term of office for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself or  
17 herself as provided in this Act.

18 **SECTION 3.**

19 The governing authority of Coffee County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to  
20 be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, no  
21 later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor or otherwise  
22 becomes law without such approval.

23

**SECTION 4.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.