

Senate Bill 497

By: Senator Jeffares of the 17th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of judge of the Probate Court of Rockdale
2 County shall be nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance
3 under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to
4 repeal 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 judge of the Probate Court of Rockdale County conducted after
8 January 1, 2012, 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 expiration of the term of office and conducted
11 as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code."

12 **SECTION 2.**

13 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the judge of the Probate Court of
14 Rockdale County in office on January 1, 2012. The sitting judge of the probate court shall
15 serve out the term of office for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed
16 himself or herself as provided in this Act.

17 **SECTION 3.**

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

22 **SECTION 4.**

23 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.