

House Bill 1082 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Houston of the 170<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of  
2 Cook County shall be nonpartisan elections; to provide for submission of this Act for  
3 preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; 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 **SECTION 1.**

7 All elections for the office of chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Cook County  
8 conducted after January 1, 2012, shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code  
9 Section 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. Such nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction  
10 with the nonpartisan general election immediately preceding expiration of the term of office  
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 of the Magistrate  
15 Court of Cook County in office on January 1, 2012. The sitting chief magistrate shall serve  
16 out the term of office for which he or she was elected and shall be eligible to succeed himself  
17 or herself as provided in this Act.

18 **SECTION 3.**

19 The governing authority of Cook County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to be  
20 submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, no later  
21 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24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.