

House Bill 1301

By: Representatives Stephens of the 164<sup>th</sup>, Bryant of the 160<sup>th</sup>, Stephens of the 161<sup>st</sup>, Gordon of the 162<sup>nd</sup>, Purcell of the 159<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act making provisions for the Magistrate Court of Chatham County and  
2 abolishing the Municipal Court of Savannah, approved March 28, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p.  
3 4422), as amended, so as to provide for qualifications for magistrates; to provide for  
4 applicability; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other  
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act making provisions for the Magistrate Court of Chatham County and abolishing the  
9 Municipal Court of Savannah, approved March 28, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4422), as amended,  
10 is amended by adding a new subsection to Section 3 to read as follows:

11 "(e) No person shall be a judge for the magistrate court unless, at the time of his or her  
12 taking the oath of office, such person is an active member of the State Bar of Georgia. All  
13 magistrates, whether elected or appointed, shall meet the qualifications of a magistrate as  
14 provided in Chapter 10 of Title 15 of the O.C.G.A."

15 **SECTION 2.**

16 This Act shall not be applied to shorten the current term of any person holding office on the  
17 date this Act becomes effective.

18 **SECTION 3.**

19 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.