

Senate Bill 8

By: Senators Carter of the 1st, Dugan of the 30th and Beach of the 21st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 elections and primaries generally, so as to provide for the nonpartisan election of tax
3 commissioners, tax receivers, and tax collectors; to provide for the qualifying for such
4 offices; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to elections and
8 primaries generally, is amended by revising paragraph (2) of subsection (c) and paragraph
9 (i)(1)(B) of Code Section 21-2-132, relating to filing notices of candidacy, nomination
10 petitions, and affidavits, as follows:

11 "(2) Each candidate for a county ~~judicial~~ office, a local school board office, or an office
12 of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her name
13 placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file notice of candidacy in the office of the
14 superintendent no earlier than 9:00 A.M. on the fourth Monday in April immediately
15 prior to the election and no later than 12:00 Noon on the Friday following the fourth
16 Monday in April, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;".

17 "(B) Each candidate for a county ~~judicial~~ office, a local school board office, or an
18 office of a consolidated government, or the candidate's agent, desiring to have his or her
19 name placed on the nonpartisan election ballot shall file a notice of candidacy in the
20 office of the superintendent at the same time as candidates for party nomination in the
21 general primary as provided in paragraph (1) of subsection (c) of Code
22 Section 21-2-153, notwithstanding the fact that any such days may be legal holidays;
23 and".

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 Said chapter is further amended by revising subsection (a) of Code Section 21-2-139, relating
26 to the authorization of nonpartisan elections, as follows:

27 "(a) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter to the contrary, the General
28 Assembly may provide by local Act for the election in nonpartisan elections of candidates
29 to fill the offices of tax commissioner, tax receiver, and tax collector; county judicial
30 offices; offices of local school boards; and offices of consolidated governments which are
31 filled by the vote of the electors of said county or political subdivision. Except as
32 otherwise provided in this Code section, the procedures to be employed in such nonpartisan
33 elections shall conform as nearly as practicable to the procedures governing nonpartisan
34 elections as provided in this chapter. Except as otherwise provided in this Code section,
35 the election procedures established by any existing local law which provides for the
36 nonpartisan election of candidates to fill county offices shall conform to the general
37 procedures governing nonpartisan elections as provided in this chapter, and such
38 nonpartisan elections shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable provisions of
39 this chapter, notwithstanding the provisions of any existing local law. For those offices for
40 which the General Assembly, pursuant to this Code section, provided by local Act for
41 election in nonpartisan primaries and elections, such offices shall no longer require
42 nonpartisan primaries. Such officers shall be elected in nonpartisan elections held and
43 conducted in conjunction with the general primary in even-numbered years in accordance
44 with this chapter without a prior nonpartisan primary. This Code section shall apply to all
45 nonpartisan elections for members of consolidated governments. All nonpartisan elections
46 for members of consolidated governments shall be governed by the provisions of this Code
47 section and shall be considered county elections and not municipal elections for the
48 purposes of this Code section. Nonpartisan elections for municipal offices shall be
49 conducted on the dates provided in the municipal charter."

50 **SECTION 3.**

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