

The House Committee on Judiciary offers the following substitute to HB 741:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to general provisions for the Supreme Court of Georgia, so as to change provisions  
3 relating to the terms of court; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date  
4 and applicability; 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 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
8 general provisions for the Supreme Court of Georgia, is amended by revising Code Section  
9 15-2-4, relating to place of sessions and terms of court, as follows:

10 "15-2-4.

11 (a) The Supreme Court shall sit at the seat of government.

12 (b) Unless the Supreme Court by rule or order chooses to extend its terms of court, the  
13 terms shall be as follows:

14 (1) ~~December~~ January term beginning the first Monday in ~~January~~ December;

15 (2) April term beginning the ~~third~~ first Monday in April; and

16 (3) ~~August~~ September term beginning the first Monday in ~~September~~ August.

17 (c) Each term shall continue until the business for that term has been disposed of by the  
18 court, provided that, unless sooner closed by order of the court, the ~~September~~ August term  
19 shall end on ~~December 16~~ November 18, the ~~January~~ December term shall end on ~~April 14~~  
20 March 31, and the April term shall end on July 31 ~~17~~. No judgment in a second-term case,  
21 other than a judgment on a motion for reconsideration in such case, shall be rendered  
22 during the last 15 days of any term. Disposition of first-term cases may be made during  
23 nonterm periods."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 This Act shall become effective on December 5, 2016, and upon such date the December  
26 term of court shall begin as provided by this Act; provided, however, that the term of court  
27 which began on the first Monday in September, 2016, under the former provisions of Code  
28 Section 15-2-4 shall end on December 16, 2016.

29 **SECTION 3.**

30 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.