

Senate Bill 341

By: Senator Parent of the 42nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To repeal a former local constitutional amendment, Ga. L. 1981, p. 1914, which former local  
2 constitutional amendment was continued in effect as statutory law pursuant to Article VII,  
3 Section II, Paragraph IV of the Constitution of Georgia and which provides for a homestead  
4 exemption from certain city ad valorem taxes for residents of the City of Decatur in an  
5 amount to be fixed by the governing authority of the city at not more than \$2,000.00 for the  
6 first year, and which may be increased periodically, but which exemption shall not exceed  
7 \$10,000.00; to provide for a referendum, effective dates, and automatic repeal; to repeal  
8 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 The former local constitutional amendment, Ga. L. 1981, p. 1914, which former local  
12 constitutional amendment was continued in effect as statutory law pursuant to Article VII,  
13 Section II, Paragraph IV of the Constitution of Georgia and which provides for a homestead  
14 exemption from certain city ad valorem taxes for residents of the City of Decatur in an  
15 amount to be fixed by the governing authority of the city at not more than \$2,000.00 for the  
16 first year, and which may be increased periodically, but which exemption shall not exceed  
17 \$10,000.00, is hereby repealed.

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 The municipal election superintendent of the City of Decatur shall call and conduct an  
20 election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of  
21 the City of Decatur for approval or rejection. The municipal election superintendent shall  
22 conduct that election in conjunction with the November, 2016, general election and shall  
23 issue the call and conduct that election as provided by general law. The municipal election  
24 superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week  
25 for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of DeKalb  
26 County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

27 "( ) YES Shall the Act be approved which repeals an obsolete homestead exemption  
28 ( ) NO for residents of the City of Decatur?"

29 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring  
30 to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on  
31 such question are for approval of the Act, Section 1 of this Act shall become of full force and  
32 effect on January 1, 2017. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted  
33 as provided in this section, Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective and this Act shall  
34 be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following that election  
35 date. The expense of such election shall be borne by the City of Decatur. It shall be the  
36 municipal election superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

37 **SECTION 3.**

38 Except as otherwise provided in Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon  
39 its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval.

40 **SECTION 4.**

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