

Senate Bill 317

By: Senators Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd, Hufstetler of the 52nd, Miller of the 49th, Dugan of the 30th, Gooch of the 51st and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 8 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county  
2 police, so as to provide a method for the abolition of a county police department and  
3 returning the law enforcement functions of such department to the sheriff of the county; 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 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 8 of Title 36 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to county police,  
8 is amended by revising Code Section 36-8-6, which was previously reserved, as follows:

9 "36-8-6.

10 (a) After a county police department is created pursuant to this chapter, it may be  
11 abolished by:

12 (1) A local Act of the General Assembly; or

13 (2) A resolution of the governing authority of the county.

14 (b) A local Act or resolution of the county governing authority to abolish a county police  
15 department pursuant to subsection (a) of this Code section shall be conditioned upon  
16 approval of such local Act or resolution of the county governing authority by the electors  
17 of the county voting in a referendum.

18 (c) If such local Act or resolution of the county governing authority is approved by the  
19 electors of the county, the county police department shall be abolished 180 days following  
20 such referendum. At such time, all property, equipment, records, documents, funds, and  
21 other items in the possession or control of the county police department shall be transferred  
22 to the sheriff of the county Reserved."

23 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

24 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.