

Senate Bill 504

By: Senator Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To provide for a nonbinding advisory referendum for the purpose of ascertaining whether the
2 electors of Glynn County desire the Glynn County Board of Commissioners to abolish the
3 Glynn County Police Department; to provide for legislative purposes and findings; to provide
4 for procedures and requirements relating thereto; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

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

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 (a) It is the purpose of this Act to provide for a nonbinding advisory referendum for the
9 purpose of ascertaining whether the electors of Glynn County desire the Glynn County Board
10 of Commissioners to abolish the Glynn County Police Department.

11 (b) It is found, determined, and declared that the holding of the nonbinding advisory
12 referendum provided for in this Act is:

13 (1) In all respects for the benefit of the people of Glynn County;

14 (2) A public purpose; and

15 (3) An essential governmental function for which public funds may be expended.

16 **SECTION 2.**

17 The election superintendent of Glynn County shall call and conduct a nonbinding advisory
18 referendum election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting a question to
19 the electors of Glynn County to determine whether a majority of said electors desire the
20 Glynn County Board of Commissioners to abolish the Glynn County Police Department.

21 The nonbinding advisory referendum election shall be held on the date of and in conjunction
22 with the 2020 November General Election and the election superintendent shall issue the call
23 and conduct that election as provided by general law. The election superintendent shall
24 cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks

25 immediately preceding the date thereof in the manner required by law. The ballot shall have
 26 written or printed thereon the words:

27 **"NONBINDING ADVISORY REFERENDUM**

28 Shall the Glynn County Board of Commissioners retain the Glynn County
 29 Police Department and make necessary reforms to answer the concerns of
 30 the Glynn County grand jury or shall the Glynn County Board of
 31 Commissioners abolish the Glynn County Police Department and allow the
 32 Glynn County Sheriff's Department to be the sole local law enforcement in
 33 the county?

34 Choose only one option below which best expresses your view on this
 35 matter:

36 () Abolish the Glynn County Police Department and consolidate its
 37 resources under the Glynn County Sheriff's Office.

38 () Retain the Glynn County Police Department while making necessary
 39 reforms that resolve all of the issues identified by the Glynn County grand
 40 jury."

41 The expense of such election shall be borne by Glynn County. It shall be the election
 42 superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

43 **SECTION 3.**

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