

Senate Bill 509

By: Senator Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd

AS PASSED SENATE

**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To abolish the Glynn County Police Department; to provide for the transfer of assets and
2 property of such police department; to provide for the transfer of duties and responsibilities
3 of such police department; to provide for related matters; to provide for a referendum,
4 effective dates, contingencies, and automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

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

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 (a) The Glynn County Police Department is abolished on May 2, 2021.

9 (b) On and after such date, all property, equipment, records, documents, funds, and other
10 items in the possession or control of the county police department shall be transferred to the
11 Sheriff of Glynn County.

12 (c) On and after such date, the duties and responsibilities of the Glynn County Police
13 Department shall be assumed by the Sheriff of Glynn County.

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 The election superintendent of Glynn County shall call and conduct an election as provided
16 in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of Glynn County for
17 approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on the Tuesday
18 next following the first Monday in November, 2020, and shall issue the call and conduct that
19 election as provided by general law. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of
20 the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date
21 thereof in the official organ of Glynn County. If an Act is approved in the 2020 session of
22 the General Assembly to place a nonbinding referendum regarding whether to abolish or
23 retain the Glynn County Police Department on the ballot, the binding referendum question
24 contained in this Act shall be placed immediately following such nonbinding referendum
25 question on the ballot. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

26 "BINDING REFERENDUM

27 () YES Shall the Act be approved that abolishes the Glynn County Police
 28 () NO Department and transfers the functions and assets of such department to the
 29 Sheriff of Glynn County?"

30 All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and those persons
 31 desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes
 32 cast on such question are for approval of the Act and a general law is enacted by the 2020
 33 regular session of the General Assembly authorizing the abolition of county police
 34 departments by local Act of the General Assembly, then Section 1 of this Act shall become
 35 of full force and effect on January 1, 2021. If the Act is not so approved, if the referendum
 36 provided for in this section is not held, or if a general law authorizing the abolition of county
 37 police departments by local Act of the General Assembly is not enacted as provided in this
 38 section, then Section 1 of this Act shall not become effective and this Act shall be
 39 automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following such election date.
 40 The expense of such election shall be borne by Glynn County. It shall be the election
 41 superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

42 **SECTION 3.**

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

45 **SECTION 4.**

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