

House Bill 1588

By: Representative Thomas of the 21st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a new charter for the City of Holly Springs in the County of
2 Cherokee, approved March 18, 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3281), as amended, particularly by an
3 Act approved April 10, 2014 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4161), and an Act approved April 29, 2014
4 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4287), so as to provide for partisan elections; to provide for a referendum,
5 effective dates, and automatic repeal; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
6 laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating a new charter for the City of Holly Springs in the County of Cherokee,
10 approved March 18, 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3281), as amended, particularly by an Act
11 approved April 10, 2014 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4161), and an Act approved April 29, 2014
12 (Ga. L. 2014, p. 4287), is amended by adding a new section to read as follows:

13 "SECTION 5.03A.

14 Partisan elections.

15 For the 2023 general municipal election, and all subsequent elections for the city, the city
16 and political parties shall be authorized to conduct primaries for city offices and candidates
17 for city offices shall be listed with either a party or an independent designation. Any such
18 primaries shall be conducted as provided for in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A, the
19 'Georgia Election Code.'"

20 **SECTION 2.**

21 The municipal election superintendent of the City of Holly Springs shall call and conduct a
22 special election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the
23 electors of the City of Holly Springs for approval or rejection. The municipal election
24 superintendent shall conduct such election on the Tuesday next following the first Monday
25 in November, 2022, and shall issue the call and conduct such election as provided by general
26 law. The municipal election superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election
27 to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the
28 official organ of Cherokee County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the
29 words:

30 "() YES Shall the Act which provides that the future elections for the City of Holly
31 () NO Springs shall be partisan instead of nonpartisan be approved?"

32 All persons desiring to vote for approval of this Act shall vote "Yes," and all persons desiring
33 to vote for rejection of this Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on
34 such question are for approval of this Act, then Section 1 of this Act shall become effective
35 on January 1, 2023. If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for rejection
36 of the annexation, this Act shall not become effective and shall be automatically repealed on
37 the first day of January immediately following such election date. The expense of such

38 election shall be borne by the City of Holly Springs. It shall be the election superintendent's
39 duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

40 **SECTION 3.**

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

43 **SECTION 4.**

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