House Bill 1388 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Roberts of the 154th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To provide for an advisory referendum election to be held in Telfair County for the purpose of ascertaining whether the form of government in Telfair County should be changed from a board of commissioners consisting of five members elected from commissioner districts with the chairperson elected by the board members from among their number to a board of commissioners consisting of four members elected from commissioner districts and a fifth member to serve as a chairperson elected by the electors from the county at large; to provide for procedures, requirements, and other matters relative thereto; to make a certain declaration; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

It is the purpose of this Act to provide for an advisory referendum within Telfair County to determine if the voters of said county desire the governing authority be changed from a board of commissioners consisting of five members elected from commissioner districts with the chairperson elected by the board members from among their number to a board of commissioners consisting of four members elected from commissioner districts and a fifth member to serve as a chairperson elected by the electors from the county at large.

SECTION 2.

(a) It shall be the duty of the election superintendent of Telfair County to issue the call for an advisory referendum election for the purpose of submitting the following question to the voters of said county to determine whether the majority of electors voting at said election prefer that the governing authority of Telfair County be changed from a board of commissioners consisting of five members elected from commissioner districts with the chairperson elected by the board members from among their number to a board of commissioners consisting of four members elected from commissioner districts and a fifth member to serve as a chairperson elected by the electors from the county at large. The

superintendent shall set the date of such election for the date of the November, 2008, general election. The superintendent shall issue the call for such election at least 60 days prior to the date thereof. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Telfair County. The ballot shall have printed thereon the following:

"Advisory Referendum Election

( ) YES Shall the governing authority of Telfair County be changed from a board of commissioners consisting of five members elected from commissioner districts with the chairperson elected by the board members from among their number to a board of commissioners consisting of four members elected from commissioner districts and a fifth member to serve as a chairperson elected by the electors from the county at large?"

( ) NO

(b) It shall be the duty of the election superintendent of Telfair County to hold and conduct the advisory election provided for in this section and to tabulate the results of such election. It shall be the further duty of said superintendent to certify the results of said election to the Secretary of State and to each member of the General Assembly whose senatorial or representative district lies wholly or partially within Telfair County. The expense of such election shall be borne by Telfair County.

(c) It is found, determined, and declared that the holding of an advisory referendum election as provided for in this section is in all respects for the benefit of the people of Telfair County and is for a public purpose and is an essential governmental function for which public funds may be expended.

SECTION 3.

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