House Bill 570 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Hatfield of the 177th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To provide that the judge of the Probate Court of Charlton County shall also serve as the chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Charlton County on and after January 1, 2013; to provide for the compensation of such judge for service as chief magistrate; to provide for the continuation in office and expiration of term of the current chief magistrate; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

(a) Pursuant to subsection (g) of Code Section 15-10-20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, the chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Charlton County shall not be separately elected for any term of office that begins on or after January 1, 2013, but on and after that date the judge of the Probate Court of Charlton County shall serve as the chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Charlton County. There shall be no election in 2012 or thereafter for the office of chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Charlton County. The term of office of the judge serving as chief magistrate shall be concurrent with such judge's term of office as the judge of the probate court.

(b) Effective January 1, 2013, in addition to any compensation received for service as judge of the Probate Court of Charlton County, the judge of the probate court who serves as chief magistrate shall receive a supplement for service as chief magistrate in an amount to be fixed by the governing authority of Charlton County. Such supplement shall not be less than the minimum amount provided by any general law of the state for additional service by a judge of the probate court as chief magistrate.

**SECTION 2.**

The chief magistrate of the Magistrate Court of Charlton County who is serving as such on January 1, 2011, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in such office shall continue to serve as such chief magistrate for a term of office which shall expire on December 31, 2012,

and, during such time period, shall continue to receive the same salary such person was receiving for performing such duties as fixed by the governing authority of Charlton County.

**SECTION 3.**

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.