House Bill 328 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Carter of the 175th, Black of the 174th, Sharper of the 177th, and Shaw of the 176th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To provide for the nonpartisan nomination and election of the judge of the Probate Court of Lowndes County; to provide for terms of office; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

The probate judge of Lowndes County who is serving on the effective date of this Act and any person selected to fill any vacancy in such office shall continue to serve out such person's term of office until the expiration of his or her term on December 31, 2016, and until the election and qualification of a successor. Beginning at the general election of 2016, a successor probate judge shall be elected by the voters of Lowndes County. That successor and all future successors to such office shall be nominated and elected by the qualified voters of Lowndes County in a nonpartisan primary and election. Persons elected to such office shall take office the first day of January immediately following such election and shall serve for a term of office of four years and until the election and qualification of their respective successors.

SECTION 2.

The governing authority of Lowndes County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to be submitted for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with the appropriate court no later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

SECTION 3.

All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.