

House Bill 158 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Mitchell of the 88<sup>th</sup>, Roberts of the 52<sup>nd</sup>, Bennett of the 94<sup>th</sup>, Crawford of the 84<sup>th</sup>, and Draper of the 90<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to general provisions regarding superior courts, so as to change the name of the  
3 Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit to the DeKalb Judicial Circuit; to provide for related  
4 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 On and after January 1, 2025, the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit shall be known and may  
8 be referred to as the DeKalb Judicial Circuit. Any reference in local law to the Stone  
9 Mountain Judicial Circuit shall be deemed to refer to the DeKalb Judicial Circuit.

10 **SECTION 2.**

11 Article 1 of Chapter 6 of Title 15 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
12 general provisions regarding superior courts, is amended by revising paragraph (37) of and  
13 adding a new paragraph to Code Section 15-6-1, relating to composition of judicial circuits,  
14 to read as follows:

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15 "(14.1) DeKalb Judicial Circuit, composed of the County of DeKalb. The judges of the  
16 DeKalb Judicial Circuit, when the business of the circuit does not require their attention,  
17 may aid in the disposition of the business of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit;"

18 ~~"(37) Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit, composed of the County of DeKalb. The judges~~  
19 ~~of the Stone Mountain Judicial Circuit, when the business of the circuit does not require~~  
20 ~~their attention, may aid in the disposition of the business of the Atlanta Judicial Circuit;~~  
21 ~~Reserved;"~~

22 **SECTION 3.**

23 Said article is further amended by revising paragraph (37) of and adding a new paragraph to  
24 Code Section 15-6-2, relating to number of judges, to read as follows:

25 "(14.1) DeKalb Circuit . . . . .10"  
26 ~~"(37) Stone Mountain Circuit . . . . . 10~~ Reserved"

27 **SECTION 4.**

28 Said article is further amended by revising paragraph (37) of and adding a new paragraph to  
29 Code Section 15-6-3, relating to terms of court, to read as follows:

30 "(14.1) DeKalb Circuit:  
31 DeKalb County — First Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and  
32 November."

33 ~~"(37) Stone Mountain Circuit:~~  
34 ~~DeKalb County — First Monday in January, March, May, July, September, and~~  
35 ~~November~~ Reserved."

36 **SECTION 5.**

37 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2025.

38

**SECTION 6.**

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