

**ADOPTED SENATE****SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HR 1042**

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to revise provisions relating to county  
2 supplements; to provide for the grandfathering of certain superior court judges so as to not  
3 reduce their compensation; to raise the minimum retirement age of new superior court  
4 judges; to authorize implementing legislation; to provide for related matters; to provide for  
5 the submission of this amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article VI, Section VII of the Constitution is amended by revising Paragraph V as follows:

9 "Paragraph V. *Compensation and allowances of judges.* (a) All judges shall receive  
10 compensation and allowances as provided by law; ~~county supplements are hereby~~  
11 ~~continued and may be granted or changed by the General Assembly. County governing~~  
12 ~~authorities which had the authority on June 30, 1983, to make county supplements shall~~  
13 ~~continue to have such authority under this Constitution. An incumbent's salary,~~  
14 ~~allowance, or supplement~~ total compensation and allowances shall not be decreased  
15 during the incumbent's term of office.

16 (b)(1) No county supplements shall be paid except as otherwise provided for in this  
17 subparagraph.

18 (2) County governing authorities may supplement the state compensation paid to  
19 superior court judges in the form of locality pay. The locality pay provided to a judge  
20 shall not exceed 10 percent of such judge's annual state salary; provided, however, that  
21 the General Assembly shall by general law provide for the reduction in the allowable  
22 amount of locality pay at a lower ratio based upon the annual state salary paid to  
23 superior court judges and for the procedures necessary to implement this subparagraph.

24 (3) Each superior court judge in office on July 1, 2024, shall have the option to  
25 continue to receive the annual salary, as well as all county supplements, in the same  
26 manner he or she was receiving such compensation on such date. The General  
27 Assembly shall by general law provide procedures for such judges to exercise the  
28 option provided for in this subparagraph.

29 (4) Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to prevent the governing authority  
30 of the county or counties comprising a judicial circuit from continuing to provide a  
31 local salary supplement to the chief judge of the circuit that was otherwise authorized  
32 by law on July 1, 2024.

33 (c) No superior court judge who first takes office after January 1, 2025, shall be eligible  
34 for retirement benefits until attaining the age of 65."

## 35 SECTION 2.

36 Article VI, Section VII of the Constitution is amended by adding a new paragraph to read as  
37 follows:

38 "Paragraph V-A. **Minimum retirement age of superior court judges.** Except as provided  
39 for in Paragraph VII of this Section, any superior court judge first taking office on or after  
40 July 1, 2025, shall not be eligible for retirement until reaching 65 years of age. The  
41 General Assembly shall by general law provide procedures necessary to implement this  
42 paragraph."

43

**SECTION 3.**

44 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
45 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
46 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

47 " YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to revise procedures for  
48  NO calculating the compensation of superior court judges by providing that such  
49 judges shall primarily be paid by the state and not county governments, and  
50 to raise the retirement age of superior court judges taking office as of July 1,  
51 2025?"

52 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."  
53 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
54 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
55 become a part of the Constitution of this state.