

House Bill 1388 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Burchett of the 176th, Corbett of the 174th, LaHood of the 175th, Watson of the 172nd, and Gullett of the 19th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 9-13-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
2 requirements of an official legal organ, so as to provide an alternative procedure for the
3 designation of the official legal organ; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 9-13-142 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the
8 requirements of an official legal organ, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

9 "(b)(1) However, in counties where no journal or newspaper meets the qualifications set
10 forth in subsection (a) of this Code section, the official organ may be designated by the
11 judge of the probate court, the sheriff, and the clerk of the superior court, or by a majority
12 of these officers governing from among newspapers otherwise qualified to be a legal
13 organ that meet the minimum paid circulation in the preceding subsection for the county,
14 or if there is no such newspaper, then the newspaper having the greatest general paid
15 circulation in the county of at least 100 copies per issue.

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16 (2) In the event that no otherwise qualified journal or newspaper has a paid circulation
17 of at least 100 copies per issue in the county, the judge of the probate court, the sheriff,
18 the clerk of the superior court, or a majority of these officers may designate a newspaper
19 that does not meet the qualifications of paragraph (1) of subsection (a) of this Code
20 section, but does have a weekly circulation in the county of at least 100 copies per issue,
21 as the legal interim organ for the county. Such interim designation shall terminate in the
22 event that another newspaper meets the qualifications of subsection (a) of this Code
23 section and is designated as the county's legal organ pursuant to this Code section."

24 **SECTION 2.**

25 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.