

House Bill 253 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Quick of the 117th, Williams of the 119th, and Frye of the 118th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide that future elections for the office of probate judge of Athens-Clarke County shall
2 be nonpartisan elections held at the time of certain general primary elections; to provide for
3 submission of this Act under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide
4 for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 All elections for the office of probate judge of Athens-Clarke County conducted after the
9 effective date of this Act shall be nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section
10 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. and shall be conducted at the general primary election immediately
11 preceding the expiration of the term of such respective office. Such nonpartisan elections
12 shall be held and conducted as provided in Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the
13 "Georgia Election Code."

14 **SECTION 2.**

15 Nothing in this Act shall affect the term of office of the probate judge of Athens-Clarke
16 County in office on the effective date of this Act. The sitting probate judge shall serve out
17 the term of office for which such probate judge was elected and shall be eligible to succeed
18 himself or herself as provided in this Act.

19 **SECTION 3.**

20 The governing authority of Athens-Clarke County shall through its legal counsel cause this
21 Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
22 amended, not later than 60 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor
23 or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

24 **SECTION 4.**

25 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
26 without such approval.

27 **SECTION 5.**

28 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.