

Senate Bill 5EX

By: Senator Summers of the 13th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the State Court of Turner County, approved April 18, 2002
2 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 4074), so as to provide that on and after January 1, 2024, the district attorney
3 of the judicial circuit within which Turner County is located shall represent the state in all
4 criminal prosecutions brought in the State Court of Turner County and shall perform the
5 duties of the office of solicitor-general of the state court; to provide for the powers, duties,
6 and responsibilities of said district attorney in such state court; to authorize the establishment
7 of a state court division by said district attorney; to provide for the assignment, appointment,
8 and compensation of personnel by said district attorney; to provide for annual budgeting; to
9 provide for the transfer of books, papers, and other office property to said district attorney;
10 to provide that no election shall be held for the office of solicitor-general of the state court;
11 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

13 **SECTION 1.**

14 An Act creating the State Court of Turner County, approved April 18, 2002
15 (Ga. L. 2002, p. 4074), is amended by revising Section 13 as follows:

16 **"SECTION 13.**

S. B. 5EX

17 (a) On and after January 1, 2024, the district attorney of the judicial circuit in which
18 Turner County is located shall represent the state in all criminal cases in the State Court of
19 Turner County as provided in subsection (c) of Code Section 15-18-60 of the O.C.G.A. and
20 shall have all of the duties, powers, and responsibilities of a solicitor-general as provided
21 by law. The district attorney of said circuit may establish a state court division and
22 designate assistant district attorneys to prosecute such cases in the State Court of Turner
23 County as provided in subsection (c) of Code Section 15-18-60 of the O.C.G.A.

24 (b) In addition to any other personnel which said district attorney is authorized to appoint
25 pursuant to Article 1 of Chapter 18 of Title 15 of the O.C.G.A., the district attorney of said
26 circuit shall be authorized to appoint an assistant district attorney to assist in the
27 prosecution of criminal cases in the State Court of Turner County. Said assistant district
28 attorney shall be compensated in an amount determined in accordance with the provisions
29 of Code Section 15-18-20 of the O.C.G.A. In addition, the district attorney shall be
30 authorized to appoint at least one administrative, clerical, and paraprofessional personnel
31 to provide support for the state court division. The compensation and number of such
32 additional personnel shall be determined by the governing authority of Turner County as
33 part of the annual budget for said district attorney.

34 (c) No election shall be held for the office of solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner
35 County for the term of office that begins on or after January 1, 2025, and such office shall
36 stand abolished. On or after January 1, 2024, any reference in this Act or any other law of
37 this state to the solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner County shall be deemed to
38 mean and refer to the district attorney of the judicial circuit in which Turner County is
39 located. It shall be the duty of the solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner County to
40 deliver all books, papers, and other office property to the district attorney of such circuit
41 as provided by Code Section 45-6-7 of the O.C.G.A. on or before the end of the term of
42 office to which said solicitor-general was elected or vacating said office, whichever occurs
43 first."

44

SECTION 2.

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