

The Senate Committee on Judiciary offered the following substitute to HB 138:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend Code Section 15-6-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the number of judges of superior courts, so as to provide for a fifth judge of the superior courts of the Northeastern Judicial Circuit; to provide for the appointment of such additional judge by the Governor; to provide for the election of successors to the judge initially appointed; to prescribe the powers of such judge; to declare inherent authority; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

Code Section 15-6-2 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the number of judges of superior courts, is amended by revising paragraph (26) as follows:

"(26) Northeastern Circuit 4 5"

SECTION 2.

One additional judge of the superior courts is added to the Northeastern Judicial Circuit, thereby increasing to five the number of judges of said circuit.

SECTION 3.

Said additional judge shall be appointed by the Governor for a term beginning January 1, 2018, and continuing through December 31, 2020, and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. His or her successor shall be elected in the manner provided by law for the election of judges of the superior courts of this state at the nonpartisan judicial election in 2020, for a term of four years beginning on January 1, 2021, and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. Future successors shall be elected at the nonpartisan judicial election each four years after such election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. They shall take office on the first day of January following the date of the election.

25

26
27
28
29

30

31
32
33
34

35

36

37

38