

House Bill 1570 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Efration of the 104th, Rich of the 97th, Kennard of the 102nd, Kendrick of the 93rd, Holcomb of the 81st, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to continue and re-create the State Court of Gwinnett County, approved
2 March 23, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 3331), as amended, particularly by an Act approved
3 April 19, 2006 (Ga. L. 2006, p. 3718), so as to provide for an additional judge for the State
4 Court of Gwinnett County; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to
5 repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act to continue and re-create the State Court of Gwinnett County, approved March 23,
9 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 3331), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 19, 2006
10 (Ga. L. 2006, p. 3718), is amended by striking subsection (a) of Section 13 and inserting in
11 its place a new subsection (a) to read as follows:

12 "(a) Until January 1, 2023, there shall be six judges of the State Court of Gwinnett County.
13 Effective January 1, 2023, there shall be seven judges of the State Court of Gwinnett
14 County. The six judges of the state court in office on January 1, 2023, shall continue to
15 serve the terms of office to which they were elected. The seventh judge added effective
16 January 1, 2023, shall be appointed by the Governor for an initial term of office ending on

17 December 31, 2024, and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. Future
18 successors shall be elected at the general election conducted immediately prior to the
19 expiration of the term of office, and they shall take office on the first day of January
20 following their election and shall serve for a term of office of four years and until their
21 successors are duly elected and qualified. Said additional judge shall have and may
22 exercise all powers, duties, jurisdictions, privileges, and immunities of the present judges
23 of the State Court of Gwinnett County. Any of the judges of said court may preside over
24 any cause and perform any official act as judge thereof. The compensation of the
25 additional judge shall be the same as that provided for other judges of the State Court of
26 Gwinnett County. Upon request of the additional judge, the governing authority of
27 Gwinnett County is authorized to furnish the additional judge with suitable courtroom
28 space and facilities, office space, office equipment, supplies, and such personnel as may
29 be considered necessary by the court to the proper function of the court. All of the
30 expenditures authorized herein are declared to be an expense of court and payable out of
31 the county treasury as such."

32 **SECTION 2.**

33 This Act shall become effective on January 1, 2023, except that the Governor is authorized
34 to appoint the additional judge added by Section 1 of this Act prior to January 1, 2023, but
35 any person so appointed shall not take office until January 1, 2023.

36 **SECTION 3.**

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