

Senate Bill 5EX

By: Senator Summers of the 13th

**AS PASSED**

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:

S. B. 5EX

**"SECTION 13.**

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

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

(c) No election shall be held for the office of solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner County for the term of office that begins on or after January 1, 2025, and such office shall stand abolished. On or after January 1, 2024, any reference in this Act or any other law of this state to the solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner County shall be deemed to mean and refer to the district attorney of the judicial circuit in which Turner County is located. It shall be the duty of the solicitor-general of the State Court of Turner County to deliver all books, papers, and other office property to the district attorney of such circuit 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.