

_____ Bill

By:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act establishing the Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia, approved August
2 12, 1915 (Ga. L. 1915, p. 63), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 29, 1983
3 (Ga. L. 1983, p. 4443), so as to increase the civil jurisdiction amount of said Court to
4 \$50,000 ; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 The Act establishing the Municipal Court of Columbus, Georgia, approved August 12, 1915
8 (Ga. L. 1915, p. 63), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 29, 1983, (Ga. L.
9 1983, p. 4443), is amended by deleting “\$7500.00” and by substituting “\$50,000.00” in
10 Section 3 (a) so that revised Section 3(a) shall read as follows:

11 **“Section 3. (a) In addition to the matters and things over which said justice courts
and notaries public now have jurisdiction, the said Municipal Court of
Columbus and Muscogee County shall have jurisdiction within the limits of
Muscogee County and Columbus, Georgia, concurrent with the Superior Court
of Muscogee County to try and dispose of all civil causes or proceedings, of
whatever nature, whether arising ex contractu or ex delicto, under the
common law or by statute, in which the principal sum sworn to or claimed to
be due, or the value of the property in dispute does not exceed \$50,000.00
and of which jurisdiction is not vested by the Constitution and laws of Georgia
exclusively in another or other courts. The criminal jurisdiction of said
municipal court shall be throughout the limits of Muscogee County and
Columbus, Georgia, and shall be the jurisdiction in criminal matters exercised
by notaries public and justice courts, and shall not exceed the jurisdiction
hereafter vested by law in the magistrate courts of this state; except that the
judge of said Municipal Court of Columbus and Muscogee County is
empowered and authorized and given jurisdiction to accept pleas of guilty or
nolo contender and to impose punishment and penalties provided by law in
all cases involving misdemeanors where preliminary hearing is waived in
writing by the accused and a plea of guilty or nolo contender entered by the
accused in writing. Whenever the words ‘principal amount sworn to or
claimed to be due’ are used in this Act, it shall be held to mean the principal
amount sued for or the value of the property sued for or claimed or the
alleged amount of liens sought to be enforced by the defendant, set-off or
counterclaim, exclusively of and not computing interest, hire, attorney’s fees,
and costs.**

SECTION 2.

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