

House Bill 1020

By: Representative Smith of the 102nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend an Act relating to the Board of Commissioners of Harris County, approved March 17, 1869 (Ga. L. 1869, p. 170), as amended, particularly by an Act approved February 10, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 3682), and an Act approved March 16, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 3682), so as to change the commissioner districts in said county; to define certain terms; to provide for currently serving commissioners and their successors; to provide for terms of office; to provide for related matters; to provide for a certain submission; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act relating to the Board of Commissioners of Harris County, approved March 17, 1869 (Ga. L. 1869, p. 170), as amended, particularly by an Act approved February 10, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 3682), and an Act approved March 16, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 3682), is amended by striking in its entirety Section 1 and inserting in its place the following:

"SECTION 1.

(a) For purposes of electing members of the board of commissioners, Harris County is divided into five commissioner districts. Each commission district shall consist of the described territory of Harris County attached to this Act and made a part hereof and further identified as: 'Plan Name: harriscc1 Plan Type: local User: shantee Administrator: Harris'.

(b) For purposes of this section:

(1) The terms 'Tract' and 'Block group' (BG) shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia;

(2) The separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as

provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia;

(3) Any part of Harris County which is not included in any commissioner district described in this section shall be included within that commissioner district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia; and

(4) Any part of Harris County which is described in this section as being included in a particular commissioner district shall nevertheless not be included within such commissioner district if such part is not contiguous to such commissioner district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that commissioner district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia."

SECTION 2.

Said Act is further amended by striking in its entirety subsection (b) of Section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

"(b) The members of the board of commissioners shall be elected as follows:

(1) At the primary and general elections conducted in 2002 and quadrennially thereafter at which members of the board of commissioners are elected, the members of the board elected to represent Commissioner Districts 1, 2, and 3 shall be elected for terms of office of four years each and until their successors are elected and qualified. The incumbent commissioners shall serve the remainder of the term of office for which they were elected; and

(2) At the primary and general elections conducted in 2004 and quadrennially thereafter at which members of the board of commissioners are elected, the members of the board elected to represent Commissioner Districts 4 and 5 shall be elected for terms of office of four years each and until their successors are elected and qualified. The incumbent commissioners shall serve the remainder of the term of office for which they were elected."

SECTION 3.

It shall be the duty of the attorney for the Board of Commissioners of Harris County to submit this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

SECTION 4.

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