

House Bill 1189

By: Representatives Bulloch of the 180th and Sholar of the 179th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the Board of Education of Thomas County, approved March
2 30, 1989 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 4321), as amended, so as to reconstitute the board of education;
3 to change the description of the education districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions;
4 to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for election and terms
5 of office of subsequent members; to provide for submission of this Act for approval under
6 the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for effective dates; to repeal
7 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 An Act providing for the Board of Education of Thomas County, approved March 30, 1989
11 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 4321), as amended, is amended by striking subsections (a) and (b) of
12 Section 2 of said Act and inserting in their place the following:

13 "(a) The Board of Education of Thomas County shall consist of seven members. For
14 purposes of electing members of the board of education, the Thomas County School
15 District is divided into seven education districts. The seven education districts shall be and
16 correspond to those seven numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part
17 of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: thomassbwk2r Plan Type: Local
18 User: staff Administrator: Thomas Co.

19 (b) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean
20 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of
21 the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The
22 separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading
23 shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report
24 of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of
25 Georgia. Any part of the Thomas County School District which is not included in any such
26 district described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such

1 part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census
2 of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Thomas County School District which
3 is described in that attachment as being in a particular district shall nevertheless not be
4 included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such
5 noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part
6 which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000
7 for the State of Georgia. Except as otherwise provided in the description of any education
8 district, whenever the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the
9 geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States
10 decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia."

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 (a) Those members of the Board of Education of Thomas County who are serving as such
13 on June 1, 2002, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue
14 to serve as such members until the regular expiration of their respective terms of office and
15 upon the election and qualification of their respective successors.

16 (b) Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, as they exist immediately prior to June 1, 2002,
17 shall continue to be designated as Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, respectively, but
18 as newly described under this Act, and on and after June 1, 2002, such members of the board
19 serving from those former education districts shall be deemed to be serving from and
20 representing their respective districts as newly described under this Act.

21 **SECTION 3.**

22 It shall be the duty of the attorney of the Board of Education of Thomas County to submit
23 this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
24 amended.

25 **SECTION 4.**

26 This section and Section 3 of this Act and those provisions of this Act necessary for the
27 election of members of the Board of Education of Thomas County in 2002 shall become
28 effective upon the approval of this Act by the Governor or upon its becoming law without
29 such approval. The remaining provisions of this Act shall become effective June 1, 2002.

30 **SECTION 5.**

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