

Senate Bill 394

By: Senators Thompson of the 33rd, Stokes of the 43rd and Tanksley of the 32nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 2 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the  
2 Department of Human Resources and its governing board and commissioner, so as to change  
3 the composition of the Board of Human Resources; to provide for related matters; to repeal  
4 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Chapter 2 of Title 49 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to the Department  
8 of Human Resources and its governing board and commissioner, is amended by striking  
9 Code Section 49-2-2, relating to the Board of Human Resources, and inserting in its place  
10 a new Code section to read as follows:

11 "49-2-2.

12 (a) There is created a Board of Human Resources which shall establish the general policy  
13 to be followed by the Department of Human Resources created by Code Section 49-2-1.  
14 The board shall consist of ~~15 members, with at least one but not more than two~~ one  
15 member from each congressional district in the state and four at-large members; appointed  
16 by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. For this purpose, the congressional districts  
17 used shall be those specified in Code Section 21-1-2, as amended by Act No. 2EX11 of the  
18 second extraordinary 2001 session of the General Assembly and as thereafter amended by  
19 law. Seven members of the board shall be engaged professionally in rendering health  
20 services, and at least five of these seven members shall be licensed to practice medicine  
21 pursuant to Chapter 34 of Title 43. In appointing members to the board, the Governor shall  
22 take into account to the extent practicable all areas and functions encompassed by the  
23 department.

24 (b) The Governor shall designate the initial terms of the members of the board as follows:  
25 three members shall be appointed for one year; three members shall be appointed for two  
26 years; three members shall be appointed for three years; three members shall be appointed

1 for four years; and ~~three~~ the remaining members shall be appointed for five years.  
2 Thereafter, all succeeding appointments shall be for five-year terms from the expiration of  
3 the previous term.

4 (c) Vacancies in office shall be filled by appointment by the Governor in the same manner  
5 as the appointment to the position on the board which becomes vacant, and the appointment  
6 shall be submitted to the Senate for confirmation at the next session of the General  
7 Assembly. An appointment to fill a vacancy, other than by expiration of a term of office,  
8 shall be for the balance of the unexpired term.

9 (d) There shall be a chairman of the board, elected by and from the membership of the  
10 board, who shall be the presiding officer of the board.

11 (e) Those members engaged in rendering health services shall comprise no more than  
12 seven members of the total membership of the board.

13 (f) The members of the board shall receive per diem and expenses as shall be set and  
14 approved by the Office of Planning and Budget and in conformance with rates and  
15 allowances set for members of other state boards."

16 **SECTION 2.**

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