

House Bill 1222

By: Representatives Porter of the 143rd and Coleman of the 142nd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Laurens County, approved
2 December 1, 1893 (Ga. L. 1893, p. 362), as amended, particularly by an Act approved
3 February 6, 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3016), so as to change the description of the commissioner
4 districts for the election of members of the board of commissioners; to provide for definitions
5 and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for
6 election and terms of office of subsequent members; to provide for submission of this Act
7 for approval under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide an
8 effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 An Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Laurens County, approved December 1,
12 1893 (Ga. L. 1893, p. 362), as amended, particularly by an Act approved February 6, 1980
13 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3016), is amended by striking Section 1 of said Act and inserting in its place
14 the following:

15 **"SECTION 1.**

16 (a) For purposes of electing members of the board of commissioners, Laurens County is
17 divided into five commissioner districts. One member of the board shall be elected from
18 each such district. The five commissioner districts shall be and correspond to those five
19 numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further
20 identified as Plan Name: laurcc1 Plan Type: Local User: Gina Administrator: Laurens.

21 (b) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean
22 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of
23 the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The
24 separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading
25 shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report
26 of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of

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

13 (c) Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as they exist immediately prior to June 1,
14 2002, shall continue to be designated as Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5,
15 respectively, but as newly described under this Act, and on and after June 1, 2002, such
16 members of the board serving from those former commissioner districts shall be deemed
17 to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described under this
18 Act."

19 **SECTION 2.**

20 Those members of the Board of Commissioners of Laurens County who are serving as such
21 on June 1, 2002, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue
22 to serve as such members until the regular expiration of their respective terms of office and
23 upon the election and qualification of their respective successors.

24 **SECTION 3.**

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

28 **SECTION 4.**

29 This Act shall become effective on June 1, 2002.

30 **SECTION 5.**

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