

House Bill 1454

By: Representatives Hammontree of the 4<sup>th</sup> and Williams of the 5<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act shortening the terms of office and providing for the election of members  
2 of the Board of Education of Whitfield County, approved April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p.  
3 3638), as amended, so as to change the description of the education districts; to provide for  
4 definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to  
5 provide for submission of this Act for approval under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965,  
6 as amended; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act shortening the terms of office and providing for the election of members of the Board  
10 of Education of Whitfield County, approved April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p. 3638), as  
11 amended, is amended by striking paragraph (2) of Section 1 and inserting in lieu thereof the  
12 following:

13 "(2)(A) 'Education districts' means the five education districts for the election of  
14 members of the board of education as described in this paragraph. Education Districts  
15 1 through 4 shall be and correspond to those four numbered districts described in and  
16 attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name:  
17 whitfieldsb1 Plan Type: LOCAL User: staff Administrator: WHITFIELD. Education  
18 District 5 shall be composed of the entire County of Whitfield with the exception of that  
19 portion of the county embraced by the city limits of Dalton.

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

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

### 13 SECTION 2.

14 The members of the Board of Education of Whitfield County in office on March 1, 2002, and  
15 any person selected to fill a vacancy in such office, shall continue to serve out the terms of  
16 office to which they were elected. The new education districts provided in this Act shall  
17 apply to the nomination and election of successors to the members of the board of education  
18 whose terms of office expire in 2002 and thereafter.

### 19 SECTION 3.

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

### 23 SECTION 4.

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