

House Bill 1480

By: Representatives Hembree of the 98th and Snelling of the 99th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for election districts for the board of education of Douglas
2 County, approved April 13, 1982 (Ga. L. 1982, p. 4786), as amended, so as to change the
3 description of the education districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for
4 continuation in office of current members; to provide for election and terms of office of
5 subsequent members; to provide for submission of this Act for approval under the federal
6 Voting Rights Act of 1965, 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 providing for election districts for the board of education of Douglas County,
10 approved April 13, 1982 (Ga. L. 1982, p. 4786), as amended, is amended by striking
11 Section 1 and inserting in its place a new Section 1 to read as follows:

12 "SECTION 1.

13 (a) Those members of the board of education of Douglas County who are serving as such
14 immediately prior to the effective date of this Act and any person selected to fill a vacancy
15 in any such office shall continue to serve as such members until the regular expiration of
16 their respective terms of office and upon the election and qualification of their respective
17 successors. On and after the effective date of this Act, the board of education of Douglas
18 County shall consist of five members all of whom shall be elected from education districts
19 described in subsection (b) of this section.

20 (b) For purposes of electing members of the board of education, the Douglas County
21 School District is divided into five education districts. One member of the board shall be
22 elected from each such district. The five education districts shall be and correspond to
23 those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and
24 further identified as Plan Name: douglassb2r Plan Type: Local User: Gina Administrator:
25 Douglas.

1 (c) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean
2 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of
3 the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The
4 separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading
5 shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report
6 of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of
7 Georgia. Any part of the Douglas County School District which is not included in any such
8 district described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such
9 part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census
10 of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Douglas County School District which
11 is described in that attachment as being in a particular district shall nevertheless not be
12 included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such
13 noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part
14 which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000
15 for the State of Georgia. Except as otherwise provided in the description of any education
16 district, whenever the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the
17 geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States
18 decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia.

19 (d) No person shall be a member of the board if that person is ineligible for such office
20 pursuant to Code Sections 45-2-1 and 20-2-51 of the O.C.G.A. or any other general law
21 applicable to that office.

22 (e) In order to be elected as a member of the board from an education district, a person
23 must receive the number of votes cast as required by general law for that office in that
24 district only. Only electors who are residents of that education district may vote for a
25 member of the board for that district. At the time of qualifying for election as a member
26 of the board from an education district, each candidate for such office shall specify the
27 education district for which that person is a candidate. A person elected or appointed as
28 a member of the board from an education district must continue to reside in that district
29 during that person's term of office or that office shall become vacant.

30 (f) The members of the board of education of Douglas County shall be elected as provided
31 in this subsection. The first members from Education Districts 2, 3, and 4 shall be elected
32 at the general election on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November 2002.
33 Those members of the board elected thereto from Education Districts 2, 3, and 4 in 2002
34 shall take office the first day of January immediately following that election and shall serve
35 for initial terms of office which expire December 31, 2006, and upon the election and
36 qualification of their respective successors. The first members from Education Districts
37 1 and 5 shall be elected at the general election on the Tuesday next following the first

1 Monday in November 2004. Those members of the board elected thereto from Education
2 Districts 1 and 5 in 2004 shall take office the first day of January immediately following
3 that election and shall serve for initial terms of office which expire December 31, 2008, and
4 upon the election and qualification of their respective successors. Those and all future
5 successors to members of the board whose terms of office are to expire shall be elected at
6 the time of the state-wide general election immediately preceding the expiration of such
7 terms, shall take office the first day of January immediately following that election, and
8 shall serve for terms of office of four years each. Members of the board shall serve for the
9 terms of office specified therefor in this subsection and until their respective successors are
10 elected and qualified.

11 (g) Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as they exist immediately prior to the effective
12 date of this Act, shall continue to be designated as Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5,
13 respectively, but as newly described under this Act, and on and after the effective date of
14 this Act, such members of the board serving from those former education districts shall be
15 deemed to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described
16 under this Act.

17 (h) All members of the board who are elected thereto shall be nominated and elected in
18 accordance with Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code'

19 (i) The chairperson of the board of education shall be compensated in the amount of
20 \$700.00 per month and each of the other board members shall be compensated in the
21 amount of \$600.00 per month. Members of the board of education, including the
22 chairperson, shall also be reimbursed for the actual expenses necessarily incurred in the
23 performance of their official duties."

24 **SECTION 2.**

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

28 **SECTION 3.**

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