

House Bill 1517

By: Representative Lord of the 121st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the board of commissioners of Washington County, approved
2 August 20, 1913 (Ga. L. 1913, p. 452), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 9,
3 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 5083), so as to revise the districts for the election of members of the
4 board of commissioners; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for method of
5 election; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the
6 federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; 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 creating the board of commissioners of Washington County, approved August 20,
11 1913 (Ga. L. 1913, p. 452), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 9, 1993
12 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 5083), is amended by striking Sections 2 and 3 and inserting in lieu thereof
13 new Sections 2 and 3 to read as follows:

14 "SECTION 2.

15 (a) For the purpose of electing the members of the board other than the chairperson,
16 Washington County shall be divided into four commissioner districts which shall be and
17 correspond to those four numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part
18 of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: washccsb2 Plan Type: Local User: Gina
19 Administrator: Washington Co.

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

1 Georgia. Any part of Washington County which is not included in any such district
2 described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such part
3 which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000
4 for the State of Georgia. Any part of Washington County which is described in that
5 attachment as being in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such
6 district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead
7 be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population
8 according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Except
9 as otherwise provided in the description of any 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 SECTION 3.

14 (a) Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 as they existed on January 1, 2002, shall continue
15 to be designated as Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively, but as newly
16 described under this section, and, on and after the effective date of this section, such
17 members of the board serving from those former commissioner districts shall be deemed
18 to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described under this
19 section.

20 (b) Those persons serving as members of the board of commissioners of Washington
21 County on January 1, 2002, and any persons selected to fill vacancies in such offices, shall
22 continue to serve out their terms of office which shall expire on December 31, 2002, and
23 upon the election and qualification of their respective successors. Those successors shall
24 be elected at the November general election in 2002 and shall take office on January 1,
25 2003, and serve for terms of office of four years. Thereafter, successors to members of the
26 board whose terms of office are to expire shall be elected at the November general election
27 immediately preceding the expiration of such terms, shall take office on the first day of
28 January immediately following such election, and shall serve for terms of office of four
29 years each. Members of the board shall serve the terms specified therefor in this Act and
30 until their respective successors are elected and qualified. The members of the board shall
31 be nominated and elected in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the
32 O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'

