

House Bill 1623

By: Representatives Westmoreland of the 104th, Brown of the 130th, Smith of the 103rd and Yates of the 106th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the composition of the Board of Education of Coweta
2 County, approved March 5, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 3704), 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 submission of this Act for approval
5 under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
6 other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act providing for the composition of the Board of Education of Coweta County,
10 approved March 5, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 3704), as amended, is amended by striking
11 subsections (b) and (c) of Section 2 and inserting in its place new subsections (b) and (c) to
12 read as follows:

13 "(b) For purposes of electing members of the board of education, other than the two
14 at-large members, the Coweta County School District is divided into five education
15 districts. One member of the board shall be elected from each such district. The five
16 education districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and
17 attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: cowp1 Plan
18 Type: Local User: staff Administrator: Coweta Co.

19 (c) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean
20 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of
21 the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The
22 separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading
23 shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report
24 of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of
25 Georgia. Any part of the Coweta County School District which is not included in any such
26 district described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such

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

11 **SECTION 2.**

12 Said Act is further amended by striking Section 4 and inserting in its place a new Section 4
 13 to read as follows:

14 "SECTION 4.

15 (a) The members of the Board of Education of Coweta County shall be elected as provided
 16 in this subsection. The first at-large member 1 and the first members from Education
 17 Districts 1, 3, and 4 shall be elected at the general primary and election in 2002 as provided
 18 in subsection (b) of Section 3. The at-large member and those members of the board
 19 elected thereto from Education Districts 1, 3, and 4 in 2002 shall take office the first day
 20 of January immediately following that election and shall serve for initial terms of office
 21 which expire December 31, 2006, and upon the election and qualification of their
 22 respective successors. The first at-large member 2 and the first members from Education
 23 Districts 2 and 5 shall be elected at the general primary and election in 2004 as provided
 24 in subsection (b) of Section 3. The at-large member and those members of the board
 25 elected thereto from Education Districts 2 and 5 in 2004 shall take office the first day of
 26 January immediately following that election and shall serve for initial terms of office which
 27 expire December 31, 2008, and upon the election and qualification of their respective
 28 successors. Those and all future successors to members of the board whose terms of office
 29 are to expire shall be elected at the general primary and election, as provided in subsection
 30 (b) of Section 3, immediately preceding the expiration of such terms, shall take office the
 31 first day of January immediately following that election, and shall serve for terms of office
 32 of four years each. Members of the board shall serve for the terms of office specified
 33 therefor in this subsection and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.
 34 (b) Education Districts 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7, as they exist immediately prior to the effective
 35 date of this Act, shall be designated as Education Districts 4, 1, 2, 5, and 3, respectively,

1 as newly described under this Act. On and after the effective date of this Act, such
2 members of the board serving from those former education districts shall be deemed to be
3 serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described under this Act.
4 Former Education Districts 1 and 2 shall be designated as At-large Members 1 and 2,
5 respectively, and on and after the effective date of this Act such members of the board
6 serving from those former education districts shall be deemed to be at-large members as
7 described under this Act."

8 **SECTION 3.**

9 It shall be the duty of the attorney of the Board of Education of Coweta County to submit this
10 Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

11 **SECTION 4.**

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