

House Bill 1635

By: Representative Broome of the 160th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

To amend an Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, approved March 4, 1935 (Ga. L. 1935, p. 630), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 21, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4426), so as to reapportion the commissioner districts; to provide for members currently serving; to provide for the submission of this Act to the United States Department of Justice; to provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, approved March 4, 1935 (Ga. L. 1935, p. 630), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 21, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4426), is amended by striking in its entirety Section 1 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

"SECTION 1.

(a) There is established in Decatur County a board of commissioners which shall be the governing authority of said county. The board shall be composed of seven members as provided in this Act. For the purpose of electing members of the board, other than the chairperson, Decatur County is divided into six commission districts as follows:

COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 1

Commence on the East side of State Route 302 at its intersection with the Florida State Line, and thence run East along the Florida State Line to the East Decatur County Line; thence run North along the East Decatur County Line to the South side of Bell Dixon Road; thence run West along the South side of the Bell Dixon Road to its intersection with the East side of Fewell Road; thence run in a Southwesterly direction along the East side of Fewell Road to its intersection with the East side of State Route 262; thence run in a Southwesterly direction along the South side of State Route 262 (Antioch Church

1 Road) to the intersection of the South side of Lake Douglas Road; thence run in a
2 Northwesterly direction along the South side of Lake Douglas Road to the South side of
3 Cedar Grove Road; thence run along the South side of Cedar Grove Road to the West
4 side of Woodhull Road; and thence run in a Southwesterly direction along the South side
5 of Woodhull Road to Georgia Power Company transmission line right-of-way; thence run
6 along the South side of Georgia Power Company transmission right-of-way line to the
7 West side of Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-way; thence run in a Northerly
8 direction along the West right-of-way of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-way
9 to its intersection with Four Mile Creek; thence meandering along Four Mile Creek in a
10 Northwesterly direction to its intersection with the West side of Fowlstown Road; thence
11 run North along the West side of Fowlstown Road to the South side of County Club
12 Road; thence run West along the South side of Country Club Road to the West side of
13 State Route 97 (Faceville Highway); thence run South along the West side of Faceville
14 Road to the South side of Hand Road; thence run West along the South side of Hand
15 Road to its intersection with Four Mile Creek; thence meandering along Four Mile Creek
16 in a Southwesterly direction to its intersection with Flint River; thence meandering along
17 the East side of Flint River in a Southerly direction to its intersection with Dry Creek;
18 thence meandering along Dry Creek in a Northeasterly direction to its intersection with
19 the East side of State Route 97; thence run in a Southerly direction along the East side of
20 Highway 97 to its intersection with Highway 302; thence run in a Southerly direction
21 along the East side of Highway 302 to the Florida line and the point of beginning.

22 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 2

23 Commence on the South side of County Line Road at its intersection with the East
24 Decatur County Line and thence run West along the South side of the County Line Road
25 to its intersection with the East side of Flint River; thence meandering along the East side
26 of Flint River in a Southwesterly direction to its intersection with the North side of Big
27 Slough Landing; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along the North side of Big
28 Slough Landing to the East side of East River Road; thence run South along the East side
29 of East River Road to the intersection with the North side of Forrest Lane; thence run
30 East along the North side of Forrest Lane to its intersection with Cumberland Court;
31 thence run along Cumberland Court to its intersection with the city limits of the City of
32 Bainbridge; thence run along the city limits of the City of Bainbridge to its intersection
33 with the North side of Belcher Lane; thence run East along the North side of Belcher
34 Lane to its intersection with the West side of Whigham Dairy Road; thence run South
35 along the West side of Whigham Dairy Road to its intersection with the South side of Old
36 Whigham Road; thence run West along the South side of the Old Whigham Road to its

1 intersection with the East side of Pipe Line Street; thence run South along the East side
2 of Pipe Line Street to its intersection with the North side of Shotwell Street; thence run
3 East along the North side of Shotwell Street to its intersection with the East side of
4 Whigham Dairy Road; thence run South across Shotwell Street to the East side of College
5 Road and thence continue to run South along the East side of College Road to its
6 intersection with the North side of Lake Douglas Road; thence run in a Southeasterly
7 direction along the North side of Lake Douglas Road to its intersection with the West side
8 of Alday Road; thence run North along the West side of Alday Road to its intersection
9 with Carrie Bell Drive on the North; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along the
10 West side of Alday Road to a curve to the East; thence run East along the North side of
11 Alday Road to a curve to the South; thence run South along the East side of Alday Road
12 to a curve to the East; thence run East along the North side of Alday Road to a curve to
13 the South; thence run South along the East side of Alday Road to the North side of Lake
14 Douglas Road; thence run in a Southeasterly direction along the East side of Lake
15 Douglas Road to its intersection with the South side of Woodhull Road; thence run West
16 along the South side of Woodhull Road to a curve to the South; thence run South along
17 the East side of Woodhull Road to its intersection with the North side of Cedar Grove
18 Road; thence run East along the North side of Cedar Grove Road to the East side of Lake
19 Douglas Road; thence run South along the East side of Lake Douglas Road to its
20 intersection with State Route 262; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along State
21 Route 262 to its intersection with Fewell Road; thence run in a Northeasterly direction
22 along the West side of Fewell Road to its intersection with the North side of Bell Dixon
23 Road; thence run East along the North side of Bell Dixon Road to its intersection with the
24 East Decatur County line; thence run North along the East Decatur County line to its
25 intersection with the South side of County Line Road and the point of beginning.

26 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 3

27 Commence on the North side of U. S. Highway 27 Bypass at its intersection with the East
28 side of Flint River and thence run in a Southerly direction along the East side of U. S.
29 Highway 27 Bypass to its intersection with the West side of South West Street; thence
30 run North along the West side of South West Street to its intersection with the North side
31 of College Street; thence run East along the North side of East College Street to its
32 intersection with the West side of Tallahassee Road; thence run North along the West
33 side of Tallahassee Road to its intersection with the North side of U. S. Highway 84B
34 (East Shotwell Street); thence run East along the North side of U. S. Highway 84B to its
35 intersection with the West side of Pipe Line Road; thence run North along the West side
36 of Pipe Line Road to its intersection with the North side of Old Whigham Road (Martin

1 Luther King, Jr. Drive); thence run East along the North side of Old Whigham Road to
2 its intersection with the West side of Whigham Dairy Road; thence run North along the
3 West side of Whigham Dairy Road to its intersection with the South side of Belcher
4 Lane; thence run West along the South side of Belcher Lane to the East city limits of the
5 City of Bainbridge; thence run North along the East city limits of Bainbridge to the South
6 side of Cumberland Court; thence run East along the South side of Cumberland Court to
7 the Southeast corner of Cumberland Court; thence run North along the East side of
8 Cumberland Court to the Northeast corner; thence run West along the North side of
9 Cumberland Court to the Northwest corner; thence run in a Southwesterly direction along
10 the West side of Cumberland Court to the South side of Forrest Lane; thence run West
11 along the South side of Forrest Lane to its intersection with the West side of East River
12 Road; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along the West side of East River Road to
13 its intersection with the Big Slough Landing; thence meandering along the Big Slough
14 Landing in a Southwesterly direction to its intersection with the East side of Flint River;
15 thence meandering in a Southwesterly direction along the East side of Flint River to its
16 intersection with the North side of U. S. Highway 27 Bypass and the point of beginning.

17 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 4

18 Commence on the South side of East Shotwell Street at its intersection with the East side
19 of South Scott Street and thence run East along the South side of East Shotwell Street
20 (Thomasville Road) to its intersection with the West side of College Road; thence run
21 South along the West side of College Road to its intersection with the South side of Lake
22 Douglas Road; thence run in an Easterly direction along the South side of Lake Douglas
23 Road to a point where Alday Road intersects the North right-of-way line of Lake Douglas
24 Road; thence run North along the East side of Alday Road to a point of intersection on
25 the North by Carrie Bell Drive; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along the South
26 side of Alday Road to a curve to the East; thence run East along the South side of Alday
27 Road to a curve to the South; thence run South along the West side of Alday Road to a
28 curve to the East; thence run East along the South side of Alday Road to a curve to the
29 South; thence run South along the West side of Alday Road to its intersection with the
30 South side of Lake Douglas Road; thence run in a Southeasterly direction along the West
31 side of Lake Douglas Road to its intersection with the North side of Woodhull Road;
32 thence run West and South along the North and West side of Woodhull Road to its
33 intersection with the Georgia Power Company transmission line right-of-way; thence run
34 in a Southwesterly direction along the Georgia Power Company transmission line right-
35 of-way to the East side of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-way; thence run in a
36 Northwesterly direction along the East side of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-

1 way to the South city limits of the City of Bainbridge; thence run West along the South
2 city limits of the City of Bainbridge to the East side of Fowlstown Road (South West
3 Street); thence run North along the East side of Fowlstown Road to the South side of East
4 College Street; thence run East along the South side of East College Street to its
5 intersection with the East side of Tallahassee Road; thence run North along the East side
6 of Tallahassee Road to the South side of Shotwell Street and the point of beginning.

7 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 5

8 Commence on the West side of State Route No. 302 at its intersection with the Florida
9 State Line and thence run North along the West side of State Route No. 302 to its
10 intersection with the West side of State Route No. 97; thence run North along the West
11 side of State Route No. 97 to its intersection with the South side of Dry Creek; thence
12 meandering along the South side of Dry Creek in a Southwesterly direction to its
13 intersection with Flint River; thence run across Flint River to the West bank; thence
14 meandering along the West side of Flint River in a Northerly direction to a point where
15 Four Mile Creek intersects the East side of Flint River; thence run East across Flint River
16 to its intersection with the North side of Four Mile Creek; thence run in a Northeasterly
17 direction along Four Mile Creek to its intersection with the North side of Hand Road;
18 thence run East along the North side of Hand Road to its intersection with the West side
19 of State Route 97; thence run North along the West side of State Route 97 to a point
20 opposite the North side of Country Club Road; thence run East across State Route 97 and
21 along the North side of Country Club Road to its intersection with the East side of
22 Fowlstown Road; thence run South along the East side of Fowlstown Road to its
23 intersection with Four Mile Creek; thence meandering along Four Mile Creek in a
24 Southeasterly direction to its intersection with the West side of the Seaboard Coastline
25 Railroad right-of-way; thence run in a Northwesterly direction along the West side of the
26 Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-way to its intersection with the South city limits of
27 the City of Bainbridge; thence run East along the South city limits of the City of
28 Bainbridge to its intersection with the West side of Fowlstown Road; thence run North
29 along the West side of Fowlstown Road (South West Street) to its intersection with the
30 South side of U. S. Highway 27 Bypass; thence run in a Northeasterly direction along the
31 South side of U. S. Highway 27 Bypass to its intersection with the West bank of Flint
32 River; thence meandering along the West bank of Flint River in a Southwesterly direction
33 to its intersection with the West side of Airport Road; thence run North along the West
34 side of Airport Road to its intersection with the South side of Spring Creek Road; thence
35 run in a Southwesterly direction along the East side of Spring Creek Road to the West
36 city limits of the City of Bainbridge; thence run North along the West city limits of the

1 City of Bainbridge to its intersection with the South side of Dothan Road; thence run in
2 a Northwesterly direction along the South side of Dothan Road to its intersection with the
3 East side of John Sam Road; thence run South along the East side of John Sam Road to
4 its intersection with the South side of John Rich Road; thence run West along the South
5 side of John Rich Road to the East intersection of Yates Spring Road; thence run South
6 along the East side of Yates Spring Road to its intersection with the South side of the
7 Smith Landing Road; thence run West along the South side of Smith Landing Road and
8 across Spring Creek to its intersection with the West Decatur County Line; thence run
9 South along the West Decatur County Line to its intersection with the Florida State Line;
10 thence run East along the Florida State Line to the West side of State Route 302 and the
11 point of beginning.

12 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 6

13 Commence on the West side of the Flint River at its intersection with the North line of
14 Decatur County and thence Meandering along the West side of Flint River to its
15 intersection with the East side of Airport Road; thence run North along the East side of
16 Airport Road to its intersection with the North right-of-way of State Route No. 253
17 (Spring Creek Road); thence run in a Southwesterly direction along the North side of
18 State Route 253 to the city limits of the City of Bainbridge; thence run North and East
19 along the city limits of Bainbridge to its intersection with the North side of Dothan Road;
20 thence run in a Northwesterly direction along the North side of Dothan Road to the North
21 side of Cooler Road; thence run South across Dothan Road to the West side of John Sam
22 Road; thence run South along the West side of John Sam Road to the North side of John
23 Rich Road; thence run West along the North side of John Rich Road to Yates Spring
24 Road; thence run South along the West side of Yates Spring Road to its intersection with
25 the North side of Smith Landing Road; thence run West along the Smith Landing Road
26 across Spring Creek to its intersection with the West Decatur County Line; thence run
27 North along the West Decatur County Line to its intersection with the North Decatur
28 County Line; thence run East along the North Decatur County Line to its intersection
29 with the West side of Flint River and the point of beginning.

30 (b) Any part of Decatur County which is not included in any commission district described
31 in subsection (a) of this section shall be included within that district contiguous to such part
32 which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000
33 for the State of Georgia. Any part of Decatur County which is described as being in a
34 particular commission district shall nevertheless not be included within such commission
35 district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead
36 be included within that commission district contiguous to such part which contains the least

1 population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of
2 Georgia. Except as otherwise provided in the description of any commission district,
3 whenever the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the
4 geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States
5 decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia."

6 **SECTION 2.**

7 It is the purpose of this Act to reapportion the districts from which members of the Board of
8 Commissioners of Decatur County are to be elected in the November, 2002, general election
9 and in subsequent general elections, and this Act results from changes in population based
10 on the United States decennial census of 2000. It is not the intention of the General Assembly
11 to affect the membership of current members of the board, their terms of office, or the
12 manner in which their successors shall be elected, and such matters shall remain as provided
13 by law on the effective date of this Act until otherwise amended by law, except to the extent
14 of reapportioning the districts represented by such members.

15 **SECTION 3.**

16 It shall be the duty of the attorney of the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County to
17 submit this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965,
18 as amended.

19 **SECTION 4.**

20 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the regular election in 2002 of
21 members of the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County shall become effective upon its
22 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act
23 shall otherwise become effective January 1, 2003.

24 **SECTION 5.**

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