

House Bill 1655

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

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a board of commissioners for Coweta County, approved
2 August 26, 1872 (Ga. L. 1872, p. 405), as amended, particularly by an Act approved
3 August 1, 1906 (Ga. L. 1906, p. 399), and by an Act approved March 18, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992,
4 p. 4889), so as to revise the districts for the election of members of the board of
5 commissioners; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for submission of this
6 Act for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
7 amended; to provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws;
8 and for other purposes.

9 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 An Act creating a board of commissioners for Coweta County, approved August 26, 1872
12 (Ga. L. 1872, p. 405), as amended, particularly by an Act approved August 1, 1906
13 (Ga. L. 1906, p. 399), and by an Act approved March 18, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 4889), is
14 amended by striking Section 3 of the 1906 amendatory Act, as amended, and inserting in lieu
15 thereof a new Section 3 to read as follows:

16 **"SECTION 3.**

17 Be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that in order to guarantee representation to
18 the different sections of the county on said board of commissioners that said Act be further
19 amended by adding the following new section:

20 "That for the purposes of this Act, the County of Coweta shall be and is hereby divided
21 into five districts to be known and designated as Commissioner District Numbers 1, 2,
22 3, 4, and 5, respectively, and shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts
23 described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan
24 Name: cowprop Plan Type: Local User: Gina Administrator: Coweta. When used in
25 such attachment, the terms "Tract" and "BG" (Block Group) shall mean and describe the

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

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 It is the purpose of this Act to reapportion the districts from which members of the board of
20 commissioners of Coweta County are to be elected in the November, 2002, general election
21 and in subsequent general elections, and this Act results from changes in population based
22 on the United States decennial census of 2000. It is not the intention of the General
23 Assembly to affect the membership of current members of the board, their terms of office,
24 or the manner in which their successors shall be elected, and such matters shall remain as
25 provided by law on the effective date of this Act until otherwise amended by law, except to
26 the extent of reapportioning the districts represented by such members.

27 **SECTION 3.**

28 It shall be the duty of the attorney of the governing authority of Coweta County to submit
29 this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
30 amended.

31 **SECTION 4.**

32 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the regular election in 2002 of
33 members of the board of commissioners of Coweta County shall become effective upon its

1 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act
2 shall otherwise become effective January 1, 2003.

3 **SECTION 5.**

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