

House Bill 1662

By: Representative Reece of the 11th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To provide for the election of members of the board of education of Chattooga County; to
2 revise the districts for the election of members of the board of education; to provide for
3 definitions and inclusions; to provide for qualifications; to provide for vacancies under
4 certain circumstances; to provide for compensation for members of the board; to provide for
5 the election of a chairperson and vice chairperson; to provide for voting by the chairperson
6 and vice chairperson; to provide for related matters; to provide for submission of this Act for
7 preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to
8 provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for
9 other purposes.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

11 **SECTION 1.**

12 (a) For the purpose of electing members of the board of education of Chattooga County, the
13 Chattooga County School District shall be divided into five education districts. The districts
14 shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached to and
15 made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: chatplanA-rev Plan Type: Local
16 User: Gina Administrator: Chattooga Co.

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

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

8 **SECTION 2.**

9 (a) To be eligible to be elected to membership on the board of education, a person shall be
10 a registered elector of Chattooga County, shall have resided in Chattooga County for a period
11 of at least 12 months immediately preceding the date of such person's election, and shall be
12 a resident of the education district from which the person is offering for election. The
13 members of the board of education shall be elected by vote of the qualified electors of the
14 entire school district.

15 (b) In the event that a member of the board of education ceases to be a resident of the
16 education district from which such member was elected, a vacancy shall exist and shall be
17 filled in accordance with law.

18 (c) The members serving as chairperson and vice chairperson shall continue to serve as such
19 throughout such members' terms of office. At the conclusion of the term of office of the
20 chairperson, the members of the board shall select from among themselves a member to
21 serve as chairperson who shall serve as such during his or her term of office. At the
22 conclusion of the term of office of the vice chairperson, the members of the board shall select
23 from among themselves a member to serve as vice chairperson who shall serve as such
24 during his or her term of office. The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be eligible to
25 succeed themselves.

26 (d) The chairperson and vice chairperson shall be entitled to vote on all matters which come
27 before the board.

28 (e) Members of the board shall be compensated in the amount of \$50.00 for each day of
29 attendance at meetings of the board and while meeting and traveling outside Chattooga
30 County on official business of the board first authorized by a majority vote of the board,
31 including, but not limited to, training sessions and state-wide meetings, plus reimbursement
32 for actual expenses necessarily incurred in connection therewith. All expenses shall be
33 approved and verified prior to reimbursement in such manner as may be specified by the
34 board.

SECTION 3.

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2 (a) The members of the board of education who were elected at the general election in
3 November, 1998, shall continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and until
4 successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act. The members of the board of
5 education who were elected at the general election in November, 2000, shall continue in
6 office for the terms to which they were elected and until successors are elected and qualified
7 as provided in this Act.

8 (b) The first members of the reconstituted board of education from Education Districts 2, 3,
9 and 4 shall be elected at the state-wide general election in 2002. Such members shall take
10 office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their successors
11 are elected and qualified.

12 (c) The first members of the reconstituted board of education from Education Districts 1 and
13 5 shall be elected at the state-wide general election in 2004. Such members shall take office
14 on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are
15 elected and qualified.

16 (d) Successors to members elected under subsections (b) and (c) of this section shall be
17 elected at the state-wide general election next preceding the expiration of such terms of office
18 and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until
19 their successors are elected and qualified.

20 (e) Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as they existed on January 1, 2002, shall continue to
21 be designated as Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, but as newly described
22 under this Act, and, on and after the effective date of this Act, such members of the board
23 serving from those former education districts shall be deemed to be serving from and
24 representing their respective districts as newly described under this Act.

SECTION 4.

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26 It shall be the duty of the attorney of the board of education of Chattooga County to submit
27 this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
28 amended.

SECTION 5.

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30 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the regular election in 2002 of
31 members of the board of education of Chattooga County shall become effective upon its
32 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act
33 shall otherwise become effective January 1, 2003.

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SECTION 6.

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