

House Bill 1635 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representative Broome of the 160th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, approved March
2 4, 1935 (Ga. L. 1935, p. 630), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 21, 1984
3 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4426), so as to reapportion the commissioner districts; to provide for
4 members currently serving; to provide for the submission of this Act to the United States
5 Department of Justice; to provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Decatur County, approved March 4, 1935
10 (Ga. L. 1935, p. 630), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 21, 1984 (Ga. L.
11 1984, p. 4426), is amended by striking in its entirety Section 1 and inserting in lieu thereof
12 the following:

13 "SECTION 1.

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

18 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 1

19 Commence on the East side of State Route 302 at its intersection with the Florida State
20 Line, and thence run East along the Florida State Line to the East Decatur County Line;
21 thence run North along the East Decatur County Line to the South side of Bell Dixon
22 Road; thence run West along the South side of the Bell Dixon Road to its intersection
23 with the East side of Fewell Road; thence run in a Southwesterly direction along the East
24 side of Fewell Road to its intersection with the East side of State Route 262; thence run
25 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 East side
4 of Woodhull Road; and thence run in a Northerly direction along the East side of
5 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 Country 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 beginning and then
19 following the extension of said line in an Easterly direction to its intersection with the
20 East side of State Route 97 (just South of Southland Road); thence run in a Southerly
21 direction along the East side of Highway 97 to its intersection with Highway 302; thence
22 run in a Southerly direction along the East side of Highway 302 to the Florida line and
23 the point of beginning.

24 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 2

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

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

28 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 3

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

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

19 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 4

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

1 of-way to the East side of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-way; thence run in a
2 Northwesterly direction along the East side of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad right-of-
3 way to the South city limits of the City of Bainbridge; thence run West along the South
4 city limits of the City of Bainbridge to the East side of Fowlstown Road (South West
5 Street); thence run North along the East side of Fowlstown Road to the South side of East
6 College Street; thence run East along the South side of East College Street to its
7 intersection with the East side of Tallahassee Road; thence run North along the East side
8 of Tallahassee Road to the South side of Shotwell Street and the point of beginning.

9 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 5

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

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

14 COMMISSION DISTRICT NO. 6

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

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

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

8 **SECTION 2.**

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

17 **SECTION 3.**

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

21 **SECTION 4.**

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

26 **SECTION 5.**

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