

House Bill 850

By: Representative Stephens of the 150th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a charter for the City of Bloomingdale, Georgia, approved March
2 25, 1974 (Ga. L. 1974, p. 3439), as amended, so as to change the provisions relating to the
3 time of municipal elections, the taking of office, the qualification of candidates, and the
4 terms of office of the mayor and councilmembers; to provide for the taking of the oath of
5 office and the first organizational meeting of the newly elected mayor and councilmembers;
6 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating a charter for the City of Bloomingdale, Georgia, approved March 25, 1974
10 (Ga. L. 1974, p. 3439), as amended, is amended by striking Section 2.01 of Article II and
11 inserting in lieu thereof the following:

12 "SECTION 2.01.
13 Election of mayor and councilmembers;
14 qualifications; oath of office;
15 organizational meeting.

16 (a) The mayor and six councilmembers elected in June of 1990, whose term normally
17 would expire on the first day of July of 1992, shall remain in office until December 31,
18 1993, and until their successors are elected and qualified. On the Tuesday next following
19 the first Monday in November of 1993, and every fourth year thereafter, successors to such
20 mayor and councilmembers shall be elected and shall serve for terms of office of four years
21 and until their successors are elected and qualified and shall take office on the first day of
22 January following their election. The candidate for mayor receiving the highest number
23 of votes shall be deemed elected mayor, and the six candidates receiving the highest
24 number of votes for councilmember shall be deemed elected councilmembers. Any elector

1 having resided in the city for not less than 12 months may be qualified as a candidate by
2 complying with the applicable provisions of Code Section 21-2-132 of the Official Code
3 of Georgia Annotated. Each elector shall be entitled to vote for one candidate for mayor
4 and six candidates for councilmember at each election. No informality shall invalidate
5 such an election, provided it is conducted fairly and in substantial conformity with the
6 requirements of this Act and the general election laws of the State of Georgia.

7 (b) On the first Thursday after January 1 following each regular city election, the mayor
8 and council shall hold a special meeting at which the oath of office shall be administered
9 to the mayor and councilmembers as follows:

10 'I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will well and truly perform the duties of (mayor
11 or councilmember as the case may be) of the city and that I will support and defend the
12 charter thereof as well as the Constitution and laws of the State of Georgia and of the
13 United States of America.'

14 The mayor and council shall meet for organization at its first regular meeting next
15 following the meeting at which the oath of office has been administered.

16 (c) Any person, in order to be eligible to hold the office of mayor or councilmember must
17 be at least 21 years of age for mayor and 21 years of age for councilmember."

18 **SECTION 2.**

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