

House Bill 825 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Sims of the 130<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the office of commissioner of roads and revenues in the County  
2 of Atkinson (now the board of commissioners of Atkinson County), approved July 23, 1931  
3 (Ga. L. 1931, p. 380), as amended, so as to change the description of the commissioner  
4 districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of  
5 current members; to provide for submission of this Act for approval under the federal Voting  
6 Rights Act of 1965, as amended; 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 the office of commissioner of roads and revenues in the County of Atkinson  
10 (now the board of commissioners of Atkinson County), approved July 23, 1931 (Ga. L. 1931,  
11 p. 380), as amended, is amended by striking Section 1 and inserting in its place a new Section  
12 1 to read as follows:

13 "SECTION 1.

14 (a) Those members of the board of commissioners of Atkinson County who are serving  
15 as such immediately prior to the effective date of this Act and any person selected to fill  
16 a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve as such members until the regular  
17 expiration of their respective terms of office and upon the election and qualification of their  
18 respective successors. On and after the effective date of this Act, the board of  
19 commissioners of Atkinson County shall consist of a chairperson and five members all of  
20 whom shall be elected from commissioner districts described in subsection (b) of this  
21 section except for the member who is chairperson and who is elected at large.

22 (b) For purposes of electing members of the board of commissioners, other than the  
23 chairperson, Atkinson County is divided into five commissioner districts. One member of  
24 the board shall be elected from each such district. The five commissioner districts shall be  
25 and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a

1 part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name: atkinsonwk2 Plan Type: Local User:  
2 Gina Administrator: Atkinson Co.

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

20 (d) Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, as they exist immediately prior to the effective  
21 date of this Act, shall continue to be designated as Commissioner Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and  
22 5, respectively, but as newly described under this Act, and on and after the effective date  
23 of this Act, such members of the board serving from those former commissioner districts  
24 shall be deemed to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly  
25 described under this Act."

## 26 SECTION 2.

27 The board of commissioners of Atkinson County shall through its legal counsel cause this  
28 Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as  
29 amended; and such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or  
30 filed with the appropriate court no later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is  
31 approved by the Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

## 32 SECTION 3.

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