

House Bill 826 (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 to reconstitute the board of education of Atkinson County, approved April  
2 5, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4771), as amended, so as to change the description of the education  
3 districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of  
4 current members; to provide for submission of this Act for approval under the federal Voting  
5 Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act to reconstitute the board of education of Atkinson County, approved April 5, 1993  
9 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4771), as amended, is amended by striking Section 2 and inserting in its  
10 place a new Section 2 to read as follows:

11 "SECTION 2.

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

19 (b) For purposes of electing members of the board of education, the Atkinson County  
20 School District is divided into five education districts. One member of the board shall be  
21 elected from each such district. The five education districts shall be and correspond to  
22 those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and  
23 further identified as Plan Name: atkinsonwk2 Plan Type: Local User: Gina  
24 Administrator: Atkinson Co.

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

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

## 25 **SECTION 2.**

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

## 31 **SECTION 3.**

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