

House Bill 871 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Richardson of the 26th, Heath of the 18th, and Maxwell of the 27th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the Board of Commissioners of Paulding County, approved
2 April 17, 1975 (Ga. L. 1975, p. 2916), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 13,
3 2001 (Ga. L. 2001, p. 4145), so as to revise the districts for the election of members of the
4 board; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for method of election; to provide
5 for submission of this Act for preclearance pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights
6 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 Board of Commissioners of Paulding County, approved April 17, 1975
10 (Ga. L. 1975, p. 2916), as amended, particularly by an Act approved April 13, 2001
11 (Ga. L. 2001, p. 4145), is amended by striking Section 3 and inserting in lieu thereof a new
12 Section 3 to read as follows:

13 **"SECTION 3.**

14 (a) The county shall be divided into four commissioner districts which shall correspond
15 to those four numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act
16 and further identified as Plan Name: H26PAULD3R Plan Type: Local User: staff
17 Administrator: Paulding Co.

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

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

10 (c) The commissioners shall have been residents of the districts which they seek to
11 represent for the 12 months immediately preceding the date on which they qualify for
12 office and shall continue to reside in such districts during their terms of office. The
13 chairperson and commissioners shall be elected for terms of four years and until their
14 successors are elected and qualified. The commissioner from Post 1 representing District 1
15 who was elected at the general election in 2000 shall continue to hold office until the term
16 for which he or she was elected shall expire and his or her successor shall be elected and
17 qualified. The commissioners from Posts 2, 3, and 4 representing Districts 2, 3, and 4,
18 respectively, elected at the general election in 2002 shall continue to hold office until the
19 terms for which they were elected shall expire and until their successors are elected and
20 qualified. The chairperson and the commissioner from Post 1 shall be elected to four-year
21 terms at the general election in 2004 and shall serve until their successors are elected and
22 qualified. The commissioners from Posts 2, 3, and 4 shall be elected to four-year terms at
23 the general election in 2006 and shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified.
24 Thereafter, all successors shall be elected at the general election immediately preceding the
25 expiration of terms of office and shall take office on the first day of January immediately
26 following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and
27 qualified."

28 **SECTION 2.**

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

34 **SECTION 3.**

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