

House Bill 1531

By: Representative Birdsong of the 104th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the election of members of the Board of Education of Twiggs
2 County, approved March 26, 1982 (Ga. L. 1982, p. 3627), as amended, particularly by an Act
3 approved March 12, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 3994), so as to change the method of filling
4 vacancies in the offices of chairperson and board members; to provide for the submission of
5 this Act for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act; to repeal conflicting laws; and
6 for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act providing for the election of members of the Board of Education of Twiggs County,
10 approved March 26, 1982 (Ga. L. 1982, p. 3627), as amended, particularly by an Act
11 approved March 12, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 3994), is amended by striking in its entirety
12 Section 5 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

13 "SECTION 5.

14 (a) In case of a vacancy on the board by death, resignation, or any cause other than the
15 expiration of term of office, such vacancy shall be filled as follows:

16 (1) If there are more than six months remaining before the expiration of the term of
17 such office, a special election to fill such vacancy shall be conducted as soon as
18 permissible under general law, except that if fewer than six months remain before the
19 next general election, the special election shall be held at the time of the general
20 election. Upon being notified of such a vacancy, the election superintendent of Twiggs
21 County shall call and conduct a special election as provided by general law.

22 (A) If the vacancy occurs in the office of chairperson, the vice chairperson shall
23 serve as chairperson until the successor is duly elected and qualified, and the
24 remaining board members shall appoint a person to serve in the office of vice
25 chairperson during such time.

1 (B) If the vacancy occurs in the office of a member other than the chairperson, the
2 remaining members shall appoint a person to serve in the vacated office until a
3 successor is duly elected and qualified; or

4 (2) If there are fewer than six months remaining before the expiration of the term of
5 such office, and the vacancy occurs:

6 (A) In the office of chairperson, the vice chairperson shall fill the remainder of the
7 term and the remaining members shall appoint a person to serve the remainder of the
8 term of the vice chairperson; or

9 (B) In the office of a member other than the chairperson, the remaining members
10 shall appoint a person to serve the remaining term of office.

11 (b) A person filling a vacancy on the board shall be required to be a resident of the
12 education district from which his or her predecessor was elected and shall meet all other
13 qualifications of office provided by this Act."

14 **SECTION 2.**

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

20 **SECTION 3.**

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