

House Bill 499 (RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Franklin of the 43rd, Keen of the 179th, and Burkhalter of the 50th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
2 general provisions regarding elections, so as to provide for the composition and number of
3 congressional districts; to provide for election of members of Congress; to provide when
4 such members shall take office; to provide for continuation of present congressional districts
5 until a certain time; to provide for other matters relative to the foregoing; to provide for
6 submission of this Act for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
7 amended; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Chapter 1 of Title 21 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general
11 provisions regarding elections, is amended by striking the description of Congressional
12 Districts 1 through 13 immediately following the second sentence of subsection (a) of Code
13 Section 21-1-2, relating to the designation of congressional districts, and inserting in its place
14 the description of Congressional Districts 1 through 13 attached to this Act and made a part
15 hereof and further identified as "Plan Name: unifiedgeorgia Plan Type: Congress User: staff
16 Administrator: H043".

17 **SECTION 2.**

18 Said chapter is further amended by striking subsection (c) of Code Section 21-1-2, relating
19 to the designation of congressional districts, and inserting in its place a new subsection (c)
20 to read as follows:

21 "(c) The first members elected pursuant to the provisions of this Code section shall be
22 those who are elected to take office in January, ~~2003~~ 2007. Successors to those members
23 and future successors shall likewise be elected under the provisions of this Code section.
24 Until that time the members of the United States House of Representatives elected in ~~2000~~
25 2004 shall continue to serve and, for all purposes relative to membership in the House of
26 Representatives, the composition of congressional districts from which such members were

1 elected shall remain the same. The provisions of this Code section shall be effective for
2 the primaries and elections of ~~2002~~ 2006 for the purpose of electing the members in ~~2002~~
3 2006 who are to take office in ~~2003~~ 2007. For the purpose of appointing or electing
4 members of boards or bodies where such are made on the basis of congressional districts,
5 the provisions of this Code section shall be effective January 1, ~~2003~~ 2007."

6 **SECTION 3.**

7 Pursuant to 42 U.S.C. Section 1973c, the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the
8 President Pro Tempore of the Senate are hereby exclusively authorized to and shall jointly
9 submit this Act on behalf of the state to the United States Department of Justice for
10 preclearance under Section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

11 **SECTION 4.**

12 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
13 without such approval.

14 **SECTION 5.**

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