

Senate Bill 144

By: Senators Mullis of the 53rd, Whitehead, Sr. of the 24th, Schaefer of the 50th and Pearson of the 51st

AS PASSED

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government,
2 so as to change the descriptions of certain state service delivery regions; to create the Georgia
3 Rural Development Council; to provide for its duties and responsibilities; to provide for the
4 composition of the council; to provide for membership, officers, and terms of office; to
5 provide for bylaws; to provide for compensation; to provide for related matters; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Title 50 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to state government, is amended
10 by striking paragraphs (7) and (12) of subsection (a) of Code Section 50-4-7, relating to state
11 service delivery regions, and inserting in lieu thereof new paragraphs (7) and (12) to read as
12 follows:

13 “(7) State Service Delivery Region 7 shall be composed of Burke, Columbia, Glascock,
14 Hancock, Jefferson, Jenkins, Lincoln, McDuffie, Richmond, ~~Screven~~, Taliaferro, Warren,
15 Washington, and Wilkes counties;”

16 “(12) State Service Delivery Region 12 shall be composed of Bryan, Bulloch, Camden,
17 Chatham, Effingham, Glynn, Liberty, Long, ~~and McIntosh~~, and Screven counties.”

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 Said title is further amended by striking Code Section 50-8-150, relating to the creation of
20 the State Advisory Committee on Rural Development, and inserting in lieu thereof a new
21 Code Section 50-8-150 to read as follows:

22 “50-8-150.

23 (a) ~~Effective July 1, 1988, there~~ There is created ~~a State Advisory Committee on the~~
24 Georgia Rural Development Council. ~~The committee council~~ shall advise the
25 ~~commissioner of community affairs and Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor on matters
26 related to rural development and the preparation of a biennial rural economic development

1 plan and any other such matters requested by the ~~commissioner of community affairs or~~
 2 ~~Board of Community Affairs~~ Governor. The ~~committee~~ council shall consist of no less
 3 than ~~15 and no more than 21 members~~, be composed of elected officials of municipalities,
 4 elected officials of counties, members of the General Assembly, and other persons
 5 knowledgeable about the community and economic development of rural areas appointed
 6 by the Governor. In making appointments to the ~~committee~~ council, the Governor shall
 7 ensure that members include representatives from throughout rural Georgia.

8 (b) Members of the ~~committee~~ council shall serve terms of office of two years and until
 9 their successors are appointed by the ~~commissioner of community affairs~~ Governor and
 10 qualified.

11 (c) ~~The committee at its initial meeting, which meeting shall be called by the~~
 12 ~~commissioner of community affairs promptly after the appointment of its members, shall~~
 13 ~~elect a chairman, vice-chairman, and secretary from among its members. These~~ The
 14 officers of the council shall consist of the Governor, who shall serve as the chairperson, a
 15 vice chairperson, and a secretary. Except for the chairperson, the council shall elect
 16 officers at its July meeting or, if there is no July meeting, at the next scheduled meeting.
 17 The vice chairperson and secretary shall serve one-year terms, after which time officers
 18 shall again be elected until their replacements are selected and qualified.

19 (d) The ~~committee~~ council shall meet at least twice a year; however, the ~~commissioner of~~
 20 ~~community affairs or the chairman of the committee~~ Governor may call additional special
 21 meetings.

22 (e) Membership on the ~~committee~~ council shall not preclude the member from holding
 23 other public office. Each member of the ~~committee~~ council shall receive the same per diem
 24 expense allowance as that received by members of the General Assembly for each day a
 25 ~~committee member~~ councilmember is in attendance at a meeting of the ~~committee~~ council,
 26 plus reimbursement for actual transportation costs incurred while traveling by public carrier
 27 or the mileage allowance authorized for certain state officials and employees for the use
 28 of a personal automobile in connection with such attendance. The above shall be paid in
 29 lieu of any other per diem, allowance, or remuneration.

30 (f) The ~~committee~~ council shall adopt, ~~and the Board of Community Affairs shall approve,~~
 31 bylaws for the regulation of its affairs and conduct of its business."

32 SECTION 3.

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