

House Bill 1555

By: Representatives Davis of the 109th, Mosby of the 90th, and Barnes of the 78th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act entitled "An Act to provide a new charter for the City of Stockbridge,"
2 approved April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p. 4359), as amended, so as to provide for council
3 districts; to provide for the election of the mayor and councilmembers; to provide for
4 residency; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance 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 entitled "An Act to provide a new charter for the City of Stockbridge," approved
9 April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p. 4359), as amended, is amended by striking in its entirety
10 Section 2.11 and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

11 "SECTION 2.11.

12 (a) At any election, all persons who are qualified under the Constitution and laws of
13 Georgia to vote for members of the General Assembly of Georgia and who are bona fide
14 residents of said city shall be eligible to qualify as voters in the election.

15 (b) All primaries and elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with Chapter 2
16 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the "Georgia Election Code," as now or hereafter amended.

17 (c) For purposes of electing members of the commission of the City of Stockbridge, the
18 City of Stockbridge is divided into five commission districts. One member of the board
19 shall be elected from each such district. The mayor shall be elected from the city at large.
20 The five commission districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts
21 described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan
22 Name:stockccfinal Plan Type: Local User: Gina Administrator: H109.

23 (d) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean
24 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of
25 the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The

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

16 (e) All persons serving on the council on January 1, 2006, or persons elected or appointed
17 to serve in the event of vacancies shall complete the terms for which they were elected or
18 appointed. Each person giving notice of candidacy for a city council seat shall designate
19 the district for which such candidate is offering. Councilmembers from Districts 1, 2, and
20 3 shall be elected in 2007 for terms of four years and until their respective successors are
21 elected and qualified. The mayor and councilmembers from Districts 4 and 5 shall be
22 elected in 2009 for terms of four years and until their respective successors are elected and
23 qualified. Thereafter, the mayor and each councilmember shall be elected quadrennially in
24 the year in which the term of the office expires.

25 (f) In order to be elected or appointed as a member of the board from a commissioner
26 district, a person must have had that person's legal residence in that district at the time of
27 qualifying for election or at the time of appointment for at least 12 months and, if elected,
28 must receive the number of votes cast as required by general law for that office in that
29 district only. Only electors who are residents of that commissioner district may vote for
30 a member of the board for that district. At the time of qualifying for election as a member
31 of the board from a commissioner district, each candidate for such office shall specify the
32 commissioner district for which that person is a candidate. A person elected or appointed
33 as a member of the board from a commissioner district must continue to reside in that
34 district during that person's term of office or that office shall become vacant."

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SECTION 2.

2 The commission of the City of Stockbridge shall through its legal counsel cause this Act to
3 be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; and
4 such submission shall be made to the United States Department of Justice or filed with the
5 appropriate court no later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the
6 Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

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SECTION 3.

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