

House Bill 1555 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Davis of the 109<sup>th</sup>, Mosby of the 90<sup>th</sup>, and Barnes of the 78<sup>th</sup>

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 council districts. One member of the board shall  
19 be elected from each such district. The mayor shall be elected from the city at large. The  
20 five council districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in  
21 and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as Plan Name:stockccfinal  
22 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 council district, whenever the description  
13 of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that city  
14 as shown on the census map for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State  
15 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 council district, a  
26 person must have had that person's legal residence in that district at the time of qualifying  
27 for election or at the time of appointment for at least 12 months and, if elected, must  
28 receive the number of votes cast as required by general law for that office in that district  
29 only. Only electors who are residents of that council district may vote for a member of the  
30 board for that district. At the time of qualifying for election as a member of the board from  
31 a council district, each candidate for such office shall specify the council district for which  
32 that person is a candidate. A person elected or appointed as a member of the board from  
33 a council district must continue to reside in that district during that person's term of office  
34 or that office shall become vacant."

