

House Bill 553 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Murphy of the 120<sup>th</sup>, Frazier of the 123<sup>rd</sup>, and Howard of the 121<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing for the consolidation of Richmond County and the City of  
2 Augusta, approved March 27, 1995 (Ga. L. 1995, p. 3648), as amended, so as to provide for  
3 eligibility for office, election, and terms of members of the Augusta-Richmond County  
4 Commission; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 An Act providing for the consolidation of Richmond County and the City of Augusta,  
8 approved March 27, 1995 (Ga. L. 1995, p. 3648), as amended, is amended by revising the  
9 last undesignated paragraph in subsection (c) of Section 2 as follows:

10 "No person who has served more than three-fourths of a second consecutive full term of  
11 office as commissioner shall again be eligible to hold office as commissioner until after the  
12 expiration of four years from the conclusion of the last full term of office to which such  
13 person was elected as commissioner."

14 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 2.**

15 Said Act is further amended by revising subsections (a) and (b) of Section 3 as follows:

16 "(a) Those members of the commission who were serving as such on January 1, 2007, and  
17 any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office, shall continue to serve as such  
18 members until the regular expiration of their respective terms of office and upon the  
19 election and qualification of their respective successors.

20 (b)(1) Those members of the commission who are elected to serve Commission Districts  
21 2, 4, 6, 8, and 10 shall be elected at the election held on the Tuesday next following the  
22 first Monday in November, 2007, shall take office on January 1, 2008, and shall serve  
23 until December 31, 2010, and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.  
24 Thereafter, their successors shall be nominated and elected by majority vote as provided  
25 in this section at the general election held in the even-numbered year immediately

1 preceding the expiration of their respective terms of office, shall take office on the first  
2 day of January immediately following the date of their election, and shall have terms of  
3 office of four years and until their respective successors are elected and qualified. Each  
4 member of the commission shall be elected by the electors residing within such member's  
5 commission district. The initial three-year terms of office provided for in this paragraph  
6 shall be considered full terms of office for purposes of term limitations.

7 (2) Those members of the commission who are elected to serve Commission Districts  
8 1, 3, 5, 7, and 9 shall be elected at the election held on the Tuesday next following the  
9 first Monday in November, 2009, shall take office on January 1, 2010, and shall serve  
10 until December 31, 2012, and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.  
11 Thereafter, their successors shall be nominated and elected by majority vote as provided  
12 in this section at the general election held in the even-numbered year immediately  
13 preceding the expiration of their respective terms of office, shall take office on the first  
14 day of January immediately following the date of their election, and shall have terms of  
15 office of four years and until their respective successors are elected and qualified. Each  
16 member of the commission shall be elected by the electors residing within such member's  
17 commission district. The initial three-year terms of office provided for in this paragraph  
18 shall be considered full terms of office for purposes of term limitations.

19 (3) The mayor pro tempore shall be a member of the commission."

20 **SECTION 3.**

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