

House Bill 813

By: Representative Howard of the 121<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating the Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority, approved  
2 April 17, 1973 (Ga. L. 1973, p. 3042), as amended, particularly by an Act approved  
3 March 23, 1977 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 3300), and an Act approved March 16, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993,  
4 p. 4087), so as to change the membership of the Authority; to provide for the terms and  
5 appointment of members of the Authority; to provide for qualifications of the members of  
6 the Authority; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating the Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority, approved April 17,  
10 1973 (Ga. L. 1973, p. 3042), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 23, 1977  
11 (Ga. L. 1977, p. 3300), and an Act approved March 16, 1993 (Ga. L. 1993, p. 4087), is  
12 amended by striking Section 2 and inserting in its place a new Section 2 to read as follows:

13 "SECTION 2.

14 (a) There is created a body corporate and politic to be known as the Augusta-Richmond  
15 County Coliseum Authority which shall be deemed to be a political subdivision of the State  
16 of Georgia and a public corporation and by that name, style, and title said body may  
17 contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded, and complain  
18 and defend in all courts of law and equity. Effective on and after July 1, 2009, the  
19 Authority shall consist of seven members to be appointed as follows:

20 (1) Six members shall be appointed by the Augusta-Richmond County Commission, with  
21 the five commissioners of Super District 9 entitled to appoint three members and the five  
22 commissioners of Super District 10 entitled to appoint three members; and

23 (2) One member shall be appointed by the legislative delegation which shall consist of  
24 all members of the General Assembly representing all or a portion of Richmond County.

25 The member appointed by the legislative delegation shall be the chairperson of the  
26 Authority.

27 In order to be qualified to serve on the Authority, an appointee shall be a resident of  
28 Richmond County and shall have experience in business.

29 (b) Beginning on July 1, 2009, the appointees of the county commission shall serve a term  
30 concurrent with the term of the Super District commissioner from the Super District that  
31 made the appointment. The appointee from the legislative delegation shall serve a  
32 two-year term, except as otherwise specified in subsection (e) of this section. In order for  
33 an appointee of the county commission to be removed from the Authority, seven members  
34 of the Augusta-Richmond County Commission, including four members from the Super  
35 District that made the appointment, without the necessity of a showing of cause, must vote  
36 for the removal of the appointee.

37 (c) The members of the Authority in office on June 30, 2009, shall not serve until the  
38 regular expiration of the terms to which such members were appointed and the terms of  
39 such members shall expire on midnight of June 30, 2009.

40 (d) As soon as practicable on or after June 1, 2009, the Augusta-Richmond County  
41 Commission shall appoint such members provided for in this section for terms beginning  
42 on July 1, 2009, to replace the currently appointed members of the Authority. All  
43 appointees to the Authority shall serve until their respective successors are appointed and  
44 qualified. Members of the Authority appointed by the Augusta-Richmond County  
45 Commission shall be allowed to succeed themselves and be reappointed.

46 (e) As soon as practicable on or after June 1, 2009, the legislative delegation shall appoint  
47 such member provided for in this section for a term beginning on July 1, 2009, and ending  
48 on December 31, 2010, or until his or her respective successor is appointed and qualified.  
49 Subsequent appointees of the legislative delegation shall serve two-year terms or until his  
50 or her respective successor is appointed and qualified. A member of the Authority  
51 appointed by the legislative delegation shall be allowed to succeed himself or herself and  
52 be reappointed.

53 (f) Immediately after their appointment, the members of the Augusta-Richmond County  
54 Coliseum Authority shall enter upon their duties. They shall all attend an orientation and  
55 training course approved by the Augusta-Richmond County Commission. They shall elect  
56 one of their number as vice chairperson, and may also elect a secretary and treasurer who  
57 need not necessarily be a member of the Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority.  
58 The vice chairperson and secretary and treasurer shall serve for a period of one year and  
59 until their successors are appointed and qualified. Four members of the Augusta-Richmond  
60 County Coliseum Authority shall constitute a quorum. The chairperson shall be a  
61 nonvoting member of the Authority, except he or she may vote to break a tie vote by the

62 other members. The chairperson shall form committees and appoint members thereto as  
63 he or she deems necessary.

64 (g) As soon as practicable after July 1, 2009, the members of the Augusta-Richmond  
65 County Coliseum Authority shall cause to be published a manual governing the acceptable  
66 business practices and management techniques to be followed by all members during their  
67 service on the Authority. This manual shall also include a statement of the purpose of the  
68 Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority and a statement of the vision for the future  
69 of the Authority.

70 (h) In the event of a vacancy by reason of death, disqualification, removal, resignation, or  
71 other reason, the body which appointed such member shall appoint a person to serve the  
72 remainder of the term of such member. No vacancy on the Augusta-Richmond County  
73 Coliseum Authority shall impair the right of the quorum to exercise all their rights and to  
74 perform all of the duties of the Authority.

75 (i) The members of the Augusta-Richmond County Coliseum Authority shall serve  
76 without compensation provided that all members shall be reimbursed for their actual  
77 expenses necessarily incurred in the performance of their duties. The Authority shall make  
78 rules and regulations governing the procedures to be followed in conducting the business  
79 of the Authority. It shall have perpetual existence."

80 **SECTION 2.**

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

83 **SECTION 3.**

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