

Senate Bill 79

By: Senators Carter of the 1st, Ligon, Jr. of the 3rd and Stone of the 23rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,  
2 relating to local boards of education, so as to provide that members of local boards of  
3 education shall serve terms of no less than four years in length; to provide for a phase-in  
4 period; to provide for exceptions; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws;  
5 and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 3 of Chapter 2 of Title 20 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to local  
9 boards of education, is amended by revising Code Section 20-2-52, relating to terms of office  
10 of members of local boards of education, as follows:

11 "20-2-52.

12 (a) ~~Members~~ Effective January 1, 2012, members of local boards of education shall be  
13 elected for terms of not less than four years, provided that longer terms of office may be  
14 ~~unless their terms are otherwise~~ provided by local Act or constitutional amendment.

15 (b)(1) Each local board of education shall have no more than seven members as provided  
16 by local Act.

17 (2) This subsection shall not apply to a local board of education whose board size  
18 exceeds seven members as provided by local constitutional amendment or federal court  
19 order or pursuant to a local law in effect prior to July 1, 2010; provided, however, that if  
20 the local law of any such local board of education is amended to revise the number of  
21 members on such board, paragraph (1) of this subsection shall apply.

22 (c) Members of local boards of education in office on July 1, 2011, who are serving terms  
23 of office of less than four years shall serve until December 31, 2012, and until their  
24 respective successors are elected and qualified. Members elected in 2011 shall serve until  
25 December 31, 2014, and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

26 Successors to all such members shall be elected to serve four-year terms of office and until  
27 their respective successors are elected and qualified.  
28 (d) The General Assembly, by local law, may provide for staggered terms of office and  
29 term limits for such offices."

30

**SECTION 2.**

31 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.