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House Bill 752

By: Representative Holmes of the 125th

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

	1	To amend an	Act creating the	e board of	commissioners of	of Jasper County,	approved July	$^{\prime}$ 23
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- 2 1923 (Ga. L. 1923, p. 255), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 13, 2008
- 3 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 4036), so as to provide for staggered terms for the board of commissioners;
- 4 to provide for manner of election; to change the description of the commissioner districts;
- 5 to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for the continuation in office of current
- 6 members; to provide for the submission of this Act for preclearance under Section 5 of the
- 7 federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to repeal
- 8 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

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## BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

- An Act creating the board of commissioners of Jasper County, approved July 23, 1923
- 12 (Ga. L. 1923, p. 255), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 13, 2008
- 13 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 4036), is amended by revising Section 1 as follows:
- 14 "SECTION 1.
- 15 (a)(1) There is established in Jasper County a board of commissioners, which shall be
- the governing authority of Jasper County and shall be composed of five members as
- 17 provided in this section. For the purpose of electing members of the board, Jasper
- 18 County is divided into five commissioner districts which shall be and correspond to those
- 19 five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and
- further identified as 'Plan: jasperccsbprop1-Tiger2010 Plan Type: LOCAL
- 21 Administrator: JM User: STAFF'.
- 22 (2)(A) For the purposes of such plan:
- 23 (i) The term 'VTD' shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as
- provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial
- census of 2010 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a

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district description which are underneath a 'VTD' heading shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia; and

- (ii) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any district, whenever the description of any district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census maps for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.
- (B) Any part of Jasper County which is not included in any district described in paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.
- (C) Any part of Jasper County which is described in s paragraph (1) of this subsection as being included in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.
- (b)(1) One commissioner shall be elected from each commissioner district by the electors residing solely within each respective district. A commissioner must reside within the district from which such commissioner is elected. Candidates for the office of commissioner shall certify at the time of their qualification as candidates that they are residents of the commissioner district from which they seek election.
- (2) In all elections conducted pursuant to this Act, each candidate shall designate, at the time of qualifying, the district from which they offer as a candidate. To be elected as a member of the board, a candidate must receive the highest number of votes cast for the seat they are seeking; and, at the same time, a candidate must receive a majority of the total votes cast for the election of a commissioner to that seat. In the event no candidate for a particular seat receives a majority of the votes for the seat the candidate is seeking, a run-off election shall be conducted for that particular seat in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code,' as now or hereafter amended.
- (c)(1) The members of the board of commissioners in office on the effective date of this section shall continue to serve until the expiration of the terms for which they were elected, which terms shall expire December 31, 2012, and until successors are elected and qualified.
- (2) At the general election in 2012, the members of the board shall be elected from Commissioner Districts 1, 3, and 5 in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a)

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of this section to take office on January 1, 2013, for terms of office of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Thereafter, successors shall be elected in the general election in the year in which their terms of office expire and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election for terms of office of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(3) At the general election in 2012, the members of the board shall be elected from Commissioner Districts 2 and 4 in accordance with the provisions of subsection (a) of this section to take office on January 1, 2013, for terms of office of two years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Thereafter, successors shall be elected in the general election in the year in which the terms of office expire and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election for terms of office of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(d) Commissioner Districts 1 through 5, as they exist immediately prior to the effective date of this section, shall continue to be designated as Commissioner Districts 1 through 5, respectively, but as newly described under this section; and, on and after the effective date of this section, such members of the board serving from those former commissioner districts shall be deemed to be serving from and representing their respective districts as newly described under this section."

81 **SECTION 2.** 

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82 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 2 as follows:

"SECTION 2. 83

Except as provided in Section 1 of this Act, the term of the members of the board of commissioners shall be four years and such members shall be elected pursuant to Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'"

87 **SECTION 3.** 

The Board of Commissioners of Jasper County shall through its legal counsel cause this Act 88 to be submitted for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, 89 as amended, no later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the 90 Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

92 **SECTION 4.** 

93 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed. Plan: jasperccsbprop1-Tiger2010

Plan Type: LOCAL Administrator: JM User: STAFF

District 001 Jasper County

VTD: 159293 - HILLSBORO

 $1032\ 1040\ 1046\ 1073\ 1074\ 1075\ 1076\ 1077\ 1078\ 1079\ 1080\ 1081$ 1082 1083 1084 1085 1087 1089 1090 1174 1209 1210 1211 1212

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District 002

Jasper County

VTD: 159290 - WYATT

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VTD: 159363 - SHADY DALE

District 003

Jasper County

VTD: 159289 - SMITH/JORDAN/LA

VTD: 159293 - HILLSBORO 1027 1028 1029 1030 1052 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071 1072 1086 1088 1152 1153 1154 1155 1163 1164 1165 1166 1167 1168 1169 1170 1171 1172 1173 1175 1176 1177 1178 1179 1180 1181 1182 1183 1184 1185 1186 1187 1188 1189 1190 1205 1206 VTD: 159295 - MONTICELLO

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VTD: 159296 - MARTIN & BURNEY

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District 004

Jasper County

VTD: 159295 - MONTICELLO

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VTD: 159296 - MARTIN & BURNEY

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VTD: 159297 - THOMPSON & BARN 1048 1049 1050 1052 1111 1112 1113 1114 1115 1116 1120 1121 1122 1123 1140 1141 1142 1143 1151 1153 1157 3000 3001 3091 4037 4038 District 005 Jasper County VTD: 159290 - WYATT  $1000\ 1001\ 1002\ 1003\ 1004\ 1005\ 1006\ 1007\ 1008\ 1009\ 1010\ 1011$  $1012\ 1013\ 1014\ 1017\ 1018\ 1019\ 1020\ 1021\ 1022\ 1023\ 1024\ 1025$ 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1037 1038 1041 1042 1043 1044  $1001\ 1002\ 1003\ 1004\ 1005\ 1006\ 1007\ 1008\ 1009\ 1010\ 1011\ 1012$ 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1019 1020 1023 1025 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1072 1158 1160 VTD: 159297 - THOMPSON & BARN 1018 1021 1022 1024 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047 1051 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057 1058 1069 1070 1071 1101 1105 1106 1107 1108 1109 1110 1117 1118 1119 1124 1125  $1126\ 1127\ 1128\ 1129\ 1130\ 1131\ 1132\ 1133\ 1134\ 1135\ 1136\ 1137$  $1138\ 1139\ 1144\ 1145\ 1146\ 1147\ 1148\ 1150\ 1152\ 1154\ 1155\ 1156$ 1161 **Newton County** VTD: 21715 - MANSFIELD 1054