

House Bill 723 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Channell of the 116<sup>th</sup>, Kidd of the 141<sup>st</sup>, and Hudson of the 124<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to change the method of electing members for the Board of Education of  
2 Putnam County, approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2678), as amended, particularly  
3 by an Act approved May 14, 2003 (Ga. L. 2003, p. 3645), so as to change manner of election  
4 of members of the board of education; to provide for the method of selection of the  
5 chairperson; to change the description of the education districts; to provide for definitions  
6 and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for  
7 election and terms of office of subsequent members; to provide for vacancies; to provide for  
8 legislative intent; to provide for submission of this Act for preclearance under Section 5 of  
9 the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to provide  
10 an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

12 **SECTION 1.**

13 An Act to change the method of electing members for the Board of Education of Putnam  
14 County, approved March 27, 1972 (Ga. L. 1972, p. 2678), particularly by an Act approved  
15 May 14, 2003 (Ga. L. 2003, p. 3645), is amended by striking Sections 1 and 2 in their  
16 entirety and inserting in lieu thereof new Sections 1 and 2 to read as follows:

17 **"SECTION 1.**

18 (a) The Board of Education of Putnam County shall be composed of five members. The  
19 members of the board shall be residents of the education districts they represent by at least  
20 the last date on which a candidate for nomination in a political party primary may qualify  
21 in the year of the election, shall continue to reside in their respective education districts,  
22 and shall be elected by the qualified electors voting within their respective education  
23 districts.

24 (b) For the purpose of electing the five members of the board of education, Putnam County  
25 shall be divided into five education districts. One member of the board shall be elected

from each such district. Those districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as "Plan: putnamsb-2012 Plan Type: Local Administrator: Putnam sb User: bak".

(c) For the purposes of such plan:

(1) 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 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

(2) 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.

(d) Any part of Putnam County which is not included in any district described in subsection (a) of this section 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.

(e) Any part of Putnam County which is described in subsection (a) of this section 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.

(f) The members of the board of education shall organize by electing by majority vote one of their number as chairperson to serve a term of two years with the ability to be re-elected for additional two-year terms. The first such election shall be at the first meeting of the board held in January, 2013, and biennially thereafter.

## SECTION 2.

(a) All members shall be nominated and elected 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.

(b) Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Board of Education of Putnam County, for any cause whatsoever, shall be filled by the majority vote of the remaining members of the board of education and any person so elected shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term of office of the member who created such vacancy; provided, however, that if the member creating the vacancy was serving as chairperson, the board

shall reorganize by appointing the vice chairperson to serve as chairperson for the remainder of the unexpired term of the chairperson.

(c)(1) The members of the board serving in office on January 1, 2012, and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve until the expiration of the term for which they were elected and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(2) All members of the board other than the chairperson shall be elected from the education districts described in subsection (b) of Section 1 of this Act.

(3)(A) Doris Clemons, the member of the board elected at the 2010 general election, shall be designated as serving from and representing Education District 1, but as newly described under this Act.

(B) Simone Jones, the member of the board elected at the 2010 general election, shall be designated as serving from and representing Education District 2, but as newly described under this Act.

(C) Steven Weiner, the member of the board elected at the November, 2008, general election, shall be designated as serving from and representing Education District 3, but as newly described under this Act.

(D) Thomas Lawrence, the member of the board elected at the November, 2008, general election shall be designated as serving from and representing Education District 4, but as newly described under this Act.

(E) Stephen Hersey, the member of the board elected at the November, 2008, general election, shall be designated as serving from and representing Education District 5 as newly described under this Act.

(4) Members of the board representing Education Districts 1 and 2 shall be elected at the general election in 2014 and quadrennially thereafter and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

(5) Members of the board representing Education Districts 3, 4, and 5 shall be elected at the general election in 2012 and quadrennially thereafter and shall take office on the first day of January immediately following their election for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified."

## SECTION 2.

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

98 **SECTION 3.**

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

101 **SECTION 4.**

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

Plan:putnamsb-2012  
Plan Type: Local  
Administrator: Putnam sb  
User: bak

District 001  
Putnam County  
VTD: 2371A - 1A  
1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021  
1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033  
1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045  
1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1059 1060  
1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1071 1077 1078 1080 1081  
1082 1083 1084 1085 1086 1087 1094 1095 1096 1097 1098 1099  
1100 1101 1102  
3003 3004 3005 3006 3007 3008 3009 3022 3025 3026 3027 3029  
4000 4001 4002 4003 4004 4005 4006 4007 4008 4009 4010 4011  
4012 4013 4014 4015 4016 4017 4018 4019 4020 4021 4022 4023  
4024 4025 4026 4027 4028 4029 4030 4031 4032 4033 4034 4035  
4036 4037 4038 4039 4040 4041 4042 4045 4046 4047 4048 4049  
4050 4051 4052 4053 4054 4055 6000 6001 6002 6003 6004 6005  
6006 6008 6009 6010 6011 6012 6018 6019 6020 7025 7026 7027  
7028  
VTD: 2371B - 1B  
VTD: 2373A - 3A  
1008 1009 1051 1057 1074 1075

District 002  
Putnam County  
VTD: 2371A - 1A  
3000 3001 3002 3010 3011 3012 3013 3014 3015 3016 3017 3018  
3019 3020 3021 3023 3024 4043 4044 6014 6015 6016 6017 7008  
7009 7010 7011 7012 7013 7014 7015 7016 7017 7018 7019 7022  
7023 7024 7029 7030 7031  
VTD: 2372A - 2A  
1088  
1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016  
1017 1018 1019 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1034  
1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 5000 5001 5002 6007 6013 7000  
7001 7002 7003 7004 7005 7006 7007 7020 7021  
VTD: 2372B - 2B

District 003  
Putnam County  
VTD: 2373A - 3A  
1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1028 2000 2001  
2002 2003 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013  
2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025  
2026 2028 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042 2043 2049 2050 2057  
2058 2059 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2065 2066 2067 2068 2069  
1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1058 1076  
VTD: 2373B - 3B  
1009 1010 1011 1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020  
1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026 1027 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033  
1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045  
1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057  
1058 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069  
1070

District 004  
Putnam County  
VTD: 2374A - 4A  
3012 3013 3038 3039 3040 3041 3042 3043 3044 3045 3046  
1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011  
1012 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023  
1024 1025 1026 1027 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1035  
1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045 1046 1047  
1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057 1058 1059  
1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071  
1072 1073 1074 1075 1076 1077 1078 1079 1080 1081 2072 3002  
3005 3029 3030 3031 4005 4006 4014 4015 4016 4017 4018 4019  
4020 4021 4022 4023 4024 4027 4028 4038 4039 4040 4041 4042  
4043 4044 4045 4046 4047 4048 4049 4050  
VTD: 2374B - 4B

District 005  
Putnam County  
VTD: 2372A - 2A  
2033 2034 2035 2036 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2051  
1068 1069 1070 1072 1073 1079 1089 1090 1091 1092 1093  
1000 1001 1002 1003 1004 1020 1021 1030 1031 1032 1033  
VTD: 2373A - 3A  
2027 2029 2030 2031 2032  
VTD: 2373B - 3B  
2052 2053 2054 2055 2056

VTD: 2373C - 3C  
VTD: 2374A - 4A  
2017 2018 2019 2021 3007 3008 3009 3010 3011 3014 3015 3017  
3018 3019 3020 3021 3022 3029 3030 3031 3032 3033 3034 3035  
3036 3037 3047  
3000 3001 3036 3037 3038