

House Bill 908

By: Representative Benton of the 31<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

To amend an Act providing a new charter for the City of Commerce, approved April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p. 4042), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 30, 2003 (Ga. L. 2003, p. 3926), and by an Act approved May 5, 2005 (Ga. L. 2005, p. 3597), so as to change the description of the education districts for the Commerce Independent School District; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for continuation in office of current members; to provide for the submission of this Act for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to provide for a contingent effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

**SECTION 1.**

An Act providing a new charter for the City of Commerce, approved April 4, 1991 (Ga. L. 1991, p. 4042), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 30, 2003 (Ga. L. 2003, p. 3926), and by an Act approved May 5, 2005 (Ga. L. 2005, p. 3597), is amended by revising paragraph (40) of subsection (b) of Section 1.12 to add a new subparagraph to read as follows:

"(E.1)(i) For the purpose of electing all five members of the board of education of the city, the independent school district is divided into five districts. One member of the board of education shall be elected from each district. These 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: commsb-2012 Plan Type: Local Administrator: City of Commerce User: SE'.

(ii) For the purposes of such plan:

(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 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.

(iii) Any part of the independent school district of the City of Commerce which is not included in any district described in division (i) of this subparagraph 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.

(iv) Any part of the independent school district of the City of Commerce which is described in division (i) of this subparagraph 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."

## SECTION 2.

(a) The members of the board of education serving in office on the effective date of this Act and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such office shall continue to serve until the expiration of the terms for which they were selected and until their successors are elected and qualified.

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

## SECTION 3.

The governing authority of the City of Commerce 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.

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**SECTION 4.**

61 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
62 without such approval, provided that an Act providing for the redistricting of the City  
63 Council of the City of Commerce is also enacted during the 2012 session of the General  
64 Assembly. If no such Act is enacted, then this Act shall be repealed by operation of law on  
65 December 31, 2012.

66

**SECTION 5.**

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

Plan: commsb-2012  
Plan Type: Local  
Administrator: City of Commerce  
User: SE

District 001  
Jackson County  
VTD: 157N0255 - MINISH  
2001 2006 2007 2008 2010 2011 2012 3056 3057 3067 3069 3070  
3072 3073 3074 3079 3080  
VTD: 157S0255 - MINISH  
2009 2030 3058 3059 3060 3061 3062 3063 3064 3065 3066 3068  
3075 3076 3077 3078 3081 3087  
4012 4013 4015

District 002  
Jackson County  
VTD: 157S0255 - MINISH  
3071 3086  
1002 1003 1004 1005 1007 1008 1009 1014 1015 1023 1024 1025  
1026 1027 1028 1029 2037 2039 2040 2041 2051 2054 3023 3024  
3025 3029 3030 3031 3035 3046 3050 3052 3054 3055 4000 4001  
4002 4003 4004 4005 4006 4007 4008 4009 4010 4011 4017 4018  
4019 4020 4024 4025 4026 4027 4028 4029 4030 4031 4032 4033  
4038 4039 4040 4041 4052 4055 4056 4057 4058 4062 4066 4069

District 003  
Jackson County  
VTD: 157N0255 - MINISH  
2013 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027 2031  
VTD: 157S0255 - MINISH  
2000 2003 2005 2006 2007 2008 2031 2032 2043 2044 2045 2047  
2048 4014 4016 4021 4022 4023 4034 4035 4036 4037 4042 4043  
4044 4045 4046 4047 4048 4049 4050 4051 4053 4054 4059 4060  
4061 4063 4064 4065 4067 4068

District 004  
Jackson County  
VTD: 1570465 - WILSON  
1027 1073 1111  
VTD: 157N0255 - MINISH  
1076 1077  
1005 1013 1014 1015 1017 1020 1021 1022 1024 1025 1026 1027  
1029 1040 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1051 1052 1056 1060 1061  
1062 1063 1065 1066 1067 1068 1069 1070 1071 1072 1074 1075  
1077 1084 1086 1094 1095 1096 1097 1105 1106 1108 1109 1110  
1112 1114 1115 1117 1118 1120 1121 1122 1125 1128 1129 1131  
1132 1134 1135 1136 1138 1140 1142 1143 1144 1146 1150 1151  
1154 1156 2000 2002 2003 2004 2005 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018  
2028 2029 3001 3004 3006 3041 3051 3055  
VTD: 157S0255 - MINISH  
2001 2002 2011 2012 2013 2016 2017 2021 2025 2026 2027 2034  
2052 3038 3082

District 005  
Jackson County  
VTD: 157N0255 - MINISH  
3008 3010 3012 3013 3015 3016 3017 3024 3026 3027 3028 3029  
3030 3031 3032 3033 3034 3035 3036 3037 3038 3039 3040 3049  
3054  
VTD: 157S0255 - MINISH  
3021 3025 3042