House Bill 1151 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Nimmer of the 178th, Smith of the 168th, and Lane of the 167th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

To amend an Act providing for the Board of Education of Wayne County, approved January

2 28, 1994 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 3512), as amended, so as to revise the districts for the election of 3 members of the board; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to provide for election, terms 4 of office, and qualifications of members; to provide for nonpartisan elections; to provide for 5 submission of this Act for approval under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as 6 amended; to provide for a contingent automatic repeal; to repeal conflicting laws; and for 7 other purposes. 8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA: 9 **SECTION 1.** 10 An Act providing for the Board of Education of Wayne County, approved January 28, 1994 11 (Ga. L. 1994, p. 3512), as amended, is amended by revising Section 1 as follows: 12 "SECTION 1. 13 (a) The Board of Education of Wayne County shall be composed of five members. For 14 purposes of electing members of the board of education, the Wayne County School District is divided into five education districts. One member of the board shall be elected from 15 16 each such district. The five education districts shall be and correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of this Act and further 17 18 identified as 'Plan: wayneccsbR-2012 Plan Type: Local Administrator: Wayne User: Gina'. 19 (b) For purposes of such plan: 20 (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 21 22 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 23 24 Blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United 25 States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

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(2) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any education district, whenever
the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical
boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States decennial census
of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

30 (c) Any part of the Wayne County School District which is not included in any such
31 district described in subsection (a) of this section shall be included within that district
32 contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States
33 decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

(d) Any part of the Wayne County School District which is described in subsection (a) of
this section as being 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.

39 (e) In order to be elected as a member of the board from an education district, a person 40 must receive the number of votes cast as required by general law for that office in that district only. Only electors who are residents of that education district may vote for a 41 42 member of the board for that district. At the time of qualifying for election as a member 43 of the board from an education district, each candidate for such office shall specify the 44 education district for which that person is a candidate. A person elected or appointed as 45 a member of the board from an education district must continue to reside in that district 46 during that person's term of office or that office shall become vacant.

(f) The members of the board of education who were elected at the general election in November 2010 shall continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and until successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act. The first members of the reconstituted Board of Education of Wayne County shall be elected at the state-wide general election in 2014 and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years.

(g) Those successors to members elected under subsection (f) of this section and all future
successors shall be elected at the state-wide general election next preceding the expiration
of such terms of office and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms
of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act.

(h) Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as they existed on January 1, 2012, shall continue
to be designated as Education Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 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.

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(i) All elections for members of the Board of Education of Wayne County shall be
nonpartisan elections as provided for in Code Section 21-2-139 of the O.C.G.A. Such
nonpartisan elections shall be held in conjunction with the November general election
immediately preceding expiration of the term of office and conducted as provided in
Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.' Those members of the
board of education in office on January 1, 2012, shall be eligible to succeed themselves as
provided in this subsection."

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SECTION 2.

70 The Board of Education of Wayne 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

- 73 or otherwise becomes effective without such approval.
- 74 SECTION 3.
 75 If, as of the first date upon which candidates may begin qualifying for the general primary

76 in 2012, implementation of this Act is not permissible under the federal Voting Rights Act

77 of 1965, as amended, then as of such date this Act shall be void and stand repealed in its

78 entirety.

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SECTION 4.

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

Plan: wayneccsbR-2012 Plan Type: Local