

House Bill 1277 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Channell of the 116<sup>th</sup> and Anderson of the 117<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act providing a new charter for the City of Washington, Georgia, approved  
2 February 14, 1958 (Ga. L. 1958, p. 2139), as amended, so as to change the description of the  
3 council districts; to define certain terms and provide for certain inclusions; to provide for  
4 continuation in office of current members; to provide for the submission of this Act for  
5 preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to  
6 provide for related matters; to provide effective dates; 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 a new charter for the City of Washington, Georgia, approved February 14,  
11 1958 (Ga. L. 1958, p. 2139), as amended, is amended by adding a new section to read as  
12 follows:

13 "SECTION 4.1.

14 (a) For the purpose of electing members of the city council, the City of Washington is  
15 divided into two districts. Such districts shall be and correspond to those two numbered  
16 districts established pursuant to the final order entered on August 21, 1992, in *Avery v.*  
17 *Mayor and Council of the City of Washington, Georgia*, Case Number CV 192-169, United  
18 States District Court for the Southern District of Georgia, Augusta Division, but as modified  
19 by the descriptions attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as 'Plan:  
20 washingtoncity-prop2-2012 Plan Type: Local Administrator: Washington User: bak'.

21 (b)(1) As used in such attachment, the term 'VTD' (voting tabulation district) shall mean  
22 and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau  
23 of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

24 (2) The separate numeric designations in a district description which are underneath a  
25 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. Any part of the City of Washington which is not included in any such district described in that attachment 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.

(3) Any part of the City of Washington which is described in that attachment 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.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any 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."

## **SECTION 2.**

The City Council of the City of Washington which existed on December 31, 2013, is continued in existence but on and after January 1, 2014, shall be constituted as provided in this Act. The City Council of the City of Washington so continued and constituted, sometimes referred to in this Act as the "council," shall continue to have the powers, duties, rights, obligations, and liabilities of that council as existed immediately prior to January 1, 2014.

## **SECTION 3.**

The City Council of the City of Washington 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.

## **SECTION 4.**

The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the regular election in 2013 of members of the City Council of the City of Washington shall become effective upon this Act's approval by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval, and this Act shall otherwise become effective January 1, 2014.

## **SECTION 5.**

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

District 001  
Wilkes County  
VTD: 3171 - SENIOR CITIZEN  
010302:  
1016 1026 1027 1028 1029 3004 3005 3006 3007 3009 3015 3016  
3022 4018 4020 4021 4048 5002 5003 5004 5005 5006 5007 5008  
5009 5010 5013 5014 5015 5016 5017 5018 5031 5032 5033 5034  
5035 5036 5037 5038 5040 5041 5042 5043 5044 5045 5046 5047  
5048 5049 5050 5051 5052 5053 5054 5055  
VTD: 3173A - EDWARD B POPE  
010302:  
1006 1015 1017 1018 1019 1020 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1030  
1031 1032 1033 1034 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 5011  
5012 5039

District 002  
Wilkes County  
VTD: 3171 - SENIOR CITIZEN  
010302:  
3000 3001 3002 3003 3023 3024 3025 3028 4006 4007 4010 4011  
4013 4014 4019 4022 4023 5025 5026 5027 5028 5029 5030  
VTD: 3172A - YOUNG FARMER'S  
010301:  
1022 1023 1035 1036 1041 1055 2021 2026 2027 2028 2029 2030  
2031 2032 2033 2034 2035 2036 2037 2038 2039 2040 2041 2042  
2043 2044 2045 2046 2047 2048 2049 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054  
2055 2056 2057 2058 2060 2061 2062 2063 2064 2084 2089 2090  
2091 2092 2097 2098 2099  
010302:  
4017 4026 4027  
VTD: 3174A - COURTHOUSE  
010301:  
1024 1025 1028 1029 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1037 1042 1043  
1044 1045 1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1056  
1057 1058 1059 1060 1061 1063 1064  
010302:  
4000 4001 4002 4003 4004 4005 4008 4009 5000 5001 5019 5020  
5021 5022 5023 5024