

Senate Bill 250

By: Senators Jackson of the 2nd and Carter of the 1st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act incorporating the City of Port Wentworth, approved February 6, 1957
2 (Ga. L. 1957, p. 2003), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 12, 2008
3 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3734), and an Act approved May 6, 2009 (Ga. L. 2009, p. 3564), so as to
4 change the description of the council districts; to provide for definitions and inclusions; to
5 provide for manner of election; to provide for the continuation in office of current members;
6 to provide for the submission of this Act for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal
7 Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
8 laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

11 An Act incorporating the City of Port Wentworth, approved February 6, 1957 (Ga. L. 1957,
12 p. 2003), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 12, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3734),
13 and an Act approved May 6, 2009 (Ga. L. 2009, p. 3564), is amended by revising
14 subsections (b), (c), and (e) of Section 4A as follows:

15 "(b) For purposes of electing members of the city council, other than the mayor and the
16 two at-large councilmembers, the City of Port Wentworth is divided into four council
17 districts. One member of the council shall be elected from each such district. The four
18 council districts shall be and correspond to those four numbered districts described in and
19 attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as 'Plan: portwentworth-2013
20 Plan Type: Local Administrator: Port Wentworth User: bak'.

21 (c)(1) For the purposes of such plan:

22 (A) The term 'VTD' shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as
23 provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial

24 census of 2010 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a district
 25 description which are underneath a VTD heading shall mean and describe individual
 26 Blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the
 27 United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia; and

28 (B) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any district, whenever the
 29 description of any district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical
 30 boundaries of that city as shown on the census maps for the United States decennial
 31 census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

32 (2) Any part of the City of Port Wentworth which is not included in any district
 33 described in subsection (b) of this section shall be included within that district contiguous
 34 to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial
 35 census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

36 (3) Any part of the City of Port Wentworth which is described in subsection (b) of this
 37 section as being included in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within
 38 such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall
 39 instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least
 40 population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of
 41 Georgia."

42 "(e) In order to be elected or appointed as a member of the city council from a district, a
 43 person must have resided in that council district for at least six months prior to the election
 44 or appointment thereto and, if elected, must receive a plurality of votes cast for that office
 45 in that district only and not at large. Only electors who are residents of the council district
 46 may vote for a member of the council for the district. At the time of qualifying for election
 47 as a member of the city council for a council district, each candidate for such office shall
 48 specify the council district for which that person is a candidate. A person elected or
 49 appointed as member of the city council from a council district must continue to reside in
 50 that district during that person's term of office or that office shall become vacant; provided,
 51 however, that, if, as the result of the enactment of a new district plan during such member's
 52 term of office to reapportion or redistrict the council districts following a United States
 53 decennial census, the residence of a member of the city council is no longer within the
 54 boundaries of the district which such member was elected to represent, such member may
 55 continue to represent such district for the remainder of such member's term of office."

56

SECTION 2.

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57 (a) Those members of the city council of the City of Port Wentworth who are serving as
58 such on the effective date of this Act and any person selected to fill a vacancy in any such
59 office shall continue to serve as such members until the regular expiration of their respective
60 terms of office and upon the election and qualification of their respective successors.

61 (b) Council Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, as they existed immediately prior to the effective date
62 of this Act, shall continue to be designated as Council Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4, respectively,
63 but as newly described under this Act, and on and after the effective date of this Act, such
64 members of the council serving from those former council districts shall be deemed to be
65 serving from and representing their respective council districts as newly described under this
66 Act.

67 **SECTION 3.**

68 The governing authority of the City of Port Wentworth shall through its legal counsel cause
69 this Act to be submitted for preclearance under the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
70 amended, no later than 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the Governor
71 or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

72 **SECTION 4.**

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

74 Plan: portwentworth-2013
 75 Plan Type:Local
 76 Administrator: Port Wentworth
 77 User: bak

78 District 001
 79 Chatham County
 80 VTD: 0517-4
 81 010700:
 82 1001 1002 1003 1004 1005 1006 1007 1008 1009 1010 1011 1012
 83 1013 1014 1015 1016 1017 1018 1021 1022 1023 1024 1025 1026
 84 1027 1028 1030 1031 1032 1033 1034 1065 1066 1067 1068 1153
 85 1156 1382 1389 1406 1407

86 District 002
 87 Chatham County
 88 VTD: 0517-11
 89 010700:
 90 1072 1073 1074
 91 VTD: 0517-4
 92 010700:
 93 1069 1070 1071 1075 1076 1077 1078 1081 1082 1083 1084 1089
 94 1145 1146 1147 1148 1182 1183 1184 1186 1187 1188 1189 1190
 95 1192 1275 1335 1341 1342 1343 1344 1345 1346 1347 1348 1349
 96 1350 1351 1402 3001 3003 3004 3005 3006 3007 3008 3009 3010
 97 3011 3012 3015 3016 3017 3018 3020

98 District 003
 99 Chatham County
 100 VTD: 0517-4
 101 010700:
 102 1029 1035 1036 1037 1038 1039 1040 1041 1042 1043 1044 1045
 103 1046 1047 1048 1049 1050 1051 1052 1053 1054 1055 1056 1057
 104 1058 1059 1060 1061 1062 1063 1064 1079 1080 1085 1086 1087
 105 1088 1149 1150 1151 1152 1387

106 District 004
 107 Chatham County
 108 VTD: 0517-3
 109 010700:
 110 2004 2005 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015
 111 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022 2023 2024 2025 2026 2027
 112 2028 2029 2030 2032 2040 2050 2051 2052 2053 2054 2055 2056
 113 2057 2058
 114 VTD: 0517-4
 115 010700:
 116 3022 3023 3024 3025 3026 3027 3028 3029 3030 3031 3032 3033
 117 3034 3036