

Senate Bill 249

By: Senators Beach of the 21st and Loudermilk of the 14th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a new charter for the City of Holly Springs, approved March 18,
2 1980 (Ga. L. 1980, p. 3281), as amended, particularly by that Act approved April 13, 2001
3 (Ga. L. 2001, p. 3679), so as to provide for the election of councilmembers from wards; to
4 provide that such officers shall be elected by plurality vote of the electors of the city at large;
5 to provide for submission for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act
6 of 1965, as amended; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act creating a new charter for the City of Holly Springs, approved March 18, 1980 (Ga.
10 L. 1980, p. 3281), as amended, particularly by that Act approved April 13, 2001 (Ga. L.
11 2001, p. 3679), is amended by revising Section 5.02 as follows:

12 "SECTION 5.02.

13 (a) The two councilmembers elected in November, 2014, shall serve in office until
14 December 31, 2018, and until their successors are elected and qualified. On the Tuesday
15 next following the first Monday in November, 2018, and quadrennially thereafter, the
16 successors to such two councilmembers shall be elected and shall serve for terms of office
17 of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified and shall take office on the
18 first day of January immediately following their election. Such offices shall be designated
19 Wards 3 and 5, and each candidate shall, at the time of qualifying, designate to which ward
20 he or she is seeking election. Such persons shall be elected by plurality vote of the electors
21 of the city at large.

22 (b) The mayor and three councilmembers elected in November, 2013, whose terms
23 normally expire on December 31, 2017, shall serve in office until December 31, 2017, and
24 until their successors are elected and qualified. On the Tuesday next following the first
25 Monday in November, 2017, and quadrennially thereafter, the successors to such mayor
26 and three councilmembers shall be elected and shall serve for terms of office of four years

27 and until their successors are elected and qualified and shall take office on the first day of
28 January immediately following their election. Such offices shall be designated Wards 1,
29 2, and 4, and each candidate shall, at the time of qualifying, designate to which ward he or
30 she is seeking election. Such persons shall be elected by plurality vote of the electors of
31 the city at large."

32 **SECTION 2.**

33 The governing authority of the City of Holly Springs shall cause, through its legal counsel,
34 this Act to be submitted for preclearance under Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act
35 of 1965, as amended, within 45 days after the date on which this Act is approved by the
36 Governor or otherwise becomes law without such approval.

37 **SECTION 3.**

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