

Senate Bill 250

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

**AS PASSED SENATE**

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 **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

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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.**

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