

House Bill 944

By: Representatives Alexander of the 66<sup>th</sup>, Beasley-Teague of the 65<sup>th</sup>, Jones of the 62<sup>nd</sup>, and Bruce of the 61<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a board of elections and registration for Douglas County, approved  
2 May 13, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3880), so as to provide for composition of the board and the  
3 selection and appointment of members; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting  
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 **SECTION 1.**

7 An Act creating a board of elections and registration for Douglas County, approved May 13,  
8 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3880), is amended by revising Section 3 as follows:

9 "SECTION 3.

10 (a) The board shall be composed of five members, each of whom shall be an elector and  
11 resident of the county and who shall be appointed as provided in this section.

12 (b) The board shall be reconstituted effective January 1, 2015, as provided for in  
13 subsections (c) and (d) of this section; until such date, those members of the board serving  
14 on January 1, 2014, shall continue to serve. The appointments for members who shall take  
15 office on January 1, 2015, shall occur in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

16 (c) Two members of the board shall be appointed by the chairperson of the county  
17 executive committee of the political party which received the highest number of votes  
18 within this state for members of the General Assembly at the last general election  
19 immediately preceding the appointment of such members. Two members of the board shall  
20 be appointed by the chairperson of the county executive committee of the political party  
21 which received the next highest number of votes within this state for members of the  
22 General Assembly at the general election immediately preceding the appointment of such  
23 members. In the event that a political party entitled to appoint a member of the board does  
24 not have a county executive committee, such appointment shall be made by the state

25 executive committee of such political party. One member shall be appointed by the  
26 governing authority of Douglas County.

27 (d) One of the initial members appointed by the chairpersons of the county executive  
28 committees of the political parties shall serve for a term of two years and the other initial  
29 member appointed by such chairpersons shall serve for a term of four years. The initial  
30 member appointed by the governing authority of Douglas County shall serve for a term of  
31 four years. Thereafter, all members of the board shall be appointed for terms of four years  
32 and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

33 (e) The appointment of each member shall be made by the respective appointing authority  
34 filing an affidavit with the clerk of the Superior Court of Douglas County no later than 30  
35 days preceding the date on which such member is to take office stating the name and  
36 residential address of the person appointed and certifying that such member has been duly  
37 appointed as provided in this Act. The clerk of the superior court shall record each such  
38 certification on the minutes of the court and shall certify the name of each member to the  
39 Secretary of State and shall provide for the issuance of appropriate commissions to the  
40 members within the same time and in the same manner as provided by law for registrars.

41 (f) Each member of the board shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself for one term  
42 following the completion of one four-year term, not including any time served under an  
43 interim appointment pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. Each member of the board  
44 shall have the right to resign at any time by giving written notice of his or her resignation  
45 to the respective appointing authority and to the clerk of the superior court. Each member  
46 of the board shall be subject to removal from the board at any time for cause, after notice  
47 and a hearing, in the same manner and by the same authority as provided for removal of  
48 registrars.

49 (g) In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of any member before the expiration  
50 of his or her term by removal, death, resignation, or otherwise, the respective appointing  
51 authority shall appoint a successor to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. The clerk  
52 of the superior court shall be notified of interim appointments and record and certify such  
53 appointments in the same manner as the regular appointment of members.

54 (h) Before entering upon his or her duties, each member shall take substantially the same  
55 oath as required by law for registrars and shall have the same privileges from arrest."

56 **SECTION 2.**

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