

House Bill 1136

By: Representatives Dempsey of the 13th, Coomer of the 14th, and Lumsden of the 12th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a new charter for the City of Rome, approved August 19, 1918
2 (Ga. L. 1918, p. 813), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 16, 1983 (Ga. L.
3 1983, p. 4188), an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission June 15, 1987 (Ga. L.
4 1988, p. 5404), an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission August 4, 1997 (Ga.
5 L. 1998, p. 4849), and an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission September 3,
6 2002 (Ga. L. 2004, p. 4756), so as to change qualifications for members of the governing
7 authority to include residency in the ward in which they seek office; to provide for related
8 matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 An Act creating a new charter for the City of Rome, approved August 19, 1918 (Ga. L. 1918,
12 p. 813), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 16, 1983 (Ga. L. 1983, p. 4188),
13 an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission June 15, 1987 (Ga. L. 1988, p. 5404),
14 an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission August 4, 1997 (Ga. L. 1998, p. 4849),
15 and an Ordinance adopted by the Rome City Commission September 3, 2002 (Ga. L. 2004,
16 p. 4756), is amended by revising subsection (a) of Section 3 as follows:

17 "(a) The governing and legislative authority of the city shall be vested in a commission of
18 nine members. Three members of said commission from each ward of the city shall be
19 elected by a plurality of the consolidated vote of the entire city. The members of said
20 commission shall have attained the age of 21 years and shall have been residents of said
21 city for at least 12 months next preceding their election. The members at the time of and
22 during their continuance in office shall be bona fide residents and citizens of the city and
23 the ward for which they are elected and must at the time of their qualification for election
24 have been a registered voter and elector of the city at least 90 days prior to qualification for
25 election, and have been a resident and citizen of the ward in which they seek office for at
26 least 90 days prior to, and at the time of, qualification for election. Each member of said

27 commission shall receive a salary of \$8,400.00 per annum. At their first meeting, or as
28 soon thereafter as possible, the members of said commission shall elect one of their
29 members as mayor, who shall receive a salary of 110 percent of the salary of a city
30 commissioner, and one as mayor pro tempore. The mayor, or in his or her absence the
31 mayor pro tempore, shall preside over the deliberations of the commission and shall have
32 the right to vote on all questions; shall preserve order and decorum at all meetings of the
33 commission and shall enforce the rules of the body; shall have power to punish all persons
34 for contempt of such rules; and shall perform all other duties incident to his or her office.
35 Service of legal process directed to or against the city shall be served upon the mayor of
36 the commission."

37 **SECTION 2.**

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