

House Bill 380 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representative Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide for the election of the members of the board of education of  
2 Echols County, approved April 10, 1968 (Ga. L. 1968, p. 3514), as amended, so as to revise  
3 the districts for the election of members of the board of education; to provide for definitions  
4 and inclusions; to provide for method of election; to provide for the continuation in office  
5 of current members; to repeal and reserve certain provisions; to provide for related matters;  
6 to provide for effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act to provide for the election of the members of the board of education of Echols  
10 County, approved April 10, 1968 (Ga. L. 1968, p. 3514), is amended by revising Section 1  
11 as follows:

12 "Section 1.

13 (a) The board of education of Echols County shall consist of five members. For the  
14 purpose electing such members, Echols County shall be divided into five districts. Districts  
15 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 shall correspond to those five numbered districts described in and attached  
16 to and made a part of this Act and further identified as 'Plan: EcholsSB-prop1-2017 Plan  
17 Type: local Administrator: Echols User: bak.'

18 (b)(1) For the purposes of such plan:

19 (A) The term 'VTD' shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as  
20 provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial  
21 census of 2010 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a district  
22 description which are underneath a 'VTD' heading shall mean and describe individual  
23 blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the  
24 United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia; and

25 (B) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any district, whenever the  
26 description of any district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical

27 boundaries of that city as shown on the census maps for the United States decennial  
28 census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

29 (2) Any part of Echols County which is not included in any district described in  
30 subsection (a) of this section shall be included within that district contiguous to such part  
31 which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of  
32 2010 for the State of Georgia.

33 (3) Any part of Echols County which is described in subsection (a) of this section as  
34 being included in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such  
35 district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall  
36 instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least  
37 population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of  
38 Georgia.

39 (c) There shall be one member of the board from each district. Each member shall be a  
40 resident of his or her respective district. A candidate shall designate the district from which  
41 such candidate offers for election. Beginning with the November, 2018, general election  
42 and in subsequent elections, members of the board shall be elected by qualified electors of  
43 Echols County. The election of members of the board shall be conducted in accordance  
44 with the provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'

45 (d) The members of the board elected in the November, 2014, general election shall  
46 continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and until successors are elected  
47 and qualified as provided in this Act. The members of the board elected in the November,  
48 2016, general election shall continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and  
49 until successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act.

50 (e) The first members of the reconstituted board of education of Echols County from  
51 Districts 1 and 2 shall be elected in the November, 2018, general election. Such members  
52 shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their  
53 successors are elected and qualified.

54 (f) The first members of the reconstituted board of education of Echols County from  
55 Districts 3, 4, and 5 shall be elected in the November, 2020, general election. Such  
56 members shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and  
57 until their successors are elected and qualified.

58 (g) Successors to members elected under subsections (e) and (f) of this section shall be  
59 elected in the November general election next preceding the expiration of such terms of  
60 office and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and  
61 until their successors are elected and qualified.

62 (h) Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 as they existed on January 1, 2017, shall continue to be  
63 designated as Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively, but as newly described under this Act,

64 and, on and after the effective date of this Act, such members of the board serving from  
65 those former districts shall be deemed to be serving from and representing their respective  
66 districts as newly described under this section."

67 **SECTION 2.**

68 Said Act is further amended by repealing Sections 2 through 4 and Section 6 and designating  
69 each such section as reserved.

70 **SECTION 3.**

71 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the 2018 regular election of members  
72 of the board of education of Echols County shall become effective upon its approval by the  
73 Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act shall otherwise  
74 become effective January 1, 2019.

75 **SECTION 4.**

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