

House Bill 550 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Stovall of the 74th, Scott of the 76th, Waites of the 60th, Bazemore of the 63rd, and Burnough of the 77th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a new charter for the City of Lake City, approved April 4, 1996
2 (Ga. L. 1996, p. 4227), as amended, so as to provide for a governing authority; to create
3 districts for the election of members of the governing authority; to provide for definitions and
4 inclusions; to provide for method of election; to provide for the continuation in office of
5 current members; to repeal a section; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective
6 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 a new charter for the City of Lake City, approved April 4, 1996 (Ga. L.
10 1996, p. 4227), as amended, is amended by revising Section 5.11 as follows:

11 "SECTION 5.11.

12 Election of the city council.

13 (a) For the purpose of electing the four councilmembers of the City of Lake City, the city
14 shall be divided into two districts. Districts 1 and 2 shall correspond to those two
15 numbered districts described in a plan and attached to and made a part of this Act and
16 further identified as 'Plan: lakecity-p1-2017 Plan Type: Local Administrator: HD74 User:
17 Gina'.

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 the City of Lake City that 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 the City of Lake City which is described in subsection (a) of this section
34 as 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 two members of the city council elected by each district each holding
40 Post 1 or Post 2. A candidate shall designate the district and post for which such candidate
41 offers for election. A candidate shall have been a resident of the district for which such
42 candidate offers for election at least 12 months prior to election. Members of the city
43 council shall be elected by qualified voters of the district for which they offer for election.
44 The election of members of the city council shall be conducted in accordance with the
45 provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'

46 (d) The members of the city council elected in the November, 2013, general election shall
47 continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and until their successors are
48 elected and qualified as provided in this Act. The members of the city council elected in
49 the November, 2015, general election shall continue in office for the terms to which they
50 were elected and until their successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act.

51 (e) The first members of the reconstituted governing authority of the City of Lake City
52 from District 1, Post 1, and District 2, Post 1, shall be elected in the November, 2017,
53 general election. Such members shall take office on January 1 following their election for
54 terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

55 (f) The first members of the reconstituted governing authority of the City of Lake City
56 from District 1, Post 2, and District 2, Post 2, shall be elected in the November, 2019,
57 general election. Such members shall take office on January 1 following their election for
58 terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified.

59 (g) Successors to members elected under subsections (e) and (f) of this section shall be
60 elected in the November general election next preceding the expiration of such terms of

61 office and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and
62 until their successors are elected and qualified."

63 **SECTION 2.**

64 Said Act is further amended by repealing Section 7.12 and designating such section as
65 reserved.

66 **SECTION 3.**

67 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the 2017 regular election of members
68 of the governing authority of the City of Lake City shall become effective upon its approval
69 by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act shall
70 otherwise become effective January 1, 2018.

71 **SECTION 4.**

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