

House Bill 894

By: Representatives Meeks of the 178<sup>th</sup>, McCall of the 33<sup>rd</sup>, Corbett of the 174<sup>th</sup>, Houston of the 170<sup>th</sup>, Pirkle of the 155<sup>th</sup>, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Code Section 2-4-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to Seed  
2 Development Commission composition, officers, bylaws, quorum, compensation, records,  
3 audit, and bonds, so as to stagger the terms of commission members; to provide for related  
4 matters; to provide for an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 Code Section 2-4-3 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to Seed Development  
8 Commission composition, officers, bylaws, quorum, compensation, records, audit, and  
9 bonds, is amended by revising subsection (b) as follows:

10 "(b) The commission shall be composed of the following 11 members:

11 (1)(A) Two members to be appointed by the Governor, each of whom shall be a  
12 licensee or shall be otherwise involved in the production, conditioning, or marketing  
13 of crops, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plants;

14 (B) No later than May 31, 2020, the Governor shall appoint two new members as  
15 provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose terms shall begin on July 1,  
16 2020, and such members and their successors shall serve terms of four years. The terms  
17 of the members appointed as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and  
18 serving as of June 30, 2020, shall terminate on that date;

19 (2)(A) One member who shall be a licensee or shall be otherwise involved in the  
20 production, conditioning, or marketing of crops, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plants,  
21 to be appointed by the Lieutenant Governor;

22 (B) No later than May 31, 2020, the Lieutenant Governor shall appoint a new member  
23 as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose term shall begin on July  
24 1, 2020, and such member shall serve a single term of five years. The successors to the  
25 member whose term ends on June 30, 2025, shall serve terms of four years that begin  
26 on July 1 of the year of their appointment. The term of the member appointed as

27 provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and serving as of June 30, 2020,  
28 shall terminate on that date;

29 (3)(A) One member who shall be a licensee or shall be otherwise involved in the  
30 production, conditioning, or marketing of crops, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plants,  
31 to be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;

32 (B) No later than May 31, 2020, the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall  
33 appoint a new member as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose  
34 term shall begin on July 1, 2020, and such member shall serve a single term of five  
35 years. The successors to the member whose term ends on June 30, 2025, shall serve  
36 terms of four years that begin on July 1 of the year of their appointment. The term of  
37 the member appointed as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and  
38 serving as of June 30, 2020, shall terminate on that date;

39 (4) The Commissioner of Agriculture or his or her designee;

40 (5)(A) Two representatives of the crop, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plant industry  
41 or of farm related organizations, one of whom shall be appointed by the Senate  
42 Agriculture and Consumer Affairs Committee, and one of whom shall be appointed by  
43 the House Committee on Agriculture and Consumer Affairs. Such representatives shall  
44 be licensees or shall otherwise have knowledge of the production, conditioning, or  
45 marketing of crops, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plants. Each committee shall make  
46 its appointment with a quorum present and a majority of those present concurring;

47 (B) No later than May 31, 2021, two new members shall be appointed as provided for  
48 in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose terms shall begin on July 1, 2021, and  
49 such members shall serve a single term of six years. The successors to the two  
50 members whose terms end on June 30, 2027, shall serve terms of four years that begin  
51 on July 1 of the year of their appointment. The terms of the members appointed as  
52 provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and serving as of June, 30, 2020,  
53 shall terminate on that date;

54 (6)(A) One member who shall be a licensee or shall be otherwise involved in the  
55 production, conditioning, or marketing of crops, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural plants,  
56 to be appointed by the Commissioner of Agriculture;

57 (B) No later than May 31, 2021, the Commissioner of Agriculture shall appoint a new  
58 member as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose term shall begin  
59 on July 1, 2021, and such member shall serve a single term of five years. The  
60 successors to the member whose term ends on June 30, 2026, shall serve terms of four  
61 years that begin on July 1 of the year of their appointment. The term of the member  
62 appointed as provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and serving as of June  
63 30, 2020, shall terminate on that date;

64 (7) The dean of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences of the  
65 University of Georgia;

66 (8) The associate dean for research of the College of Agricultural and Environmental  
67 Sciences of the University of Georgia, as a nonvoting member; and

68 (9)(A) An additional nonvoting member who is a crop, seed, turfgrass, or horticultural  
69 plant breeder employed by the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences of  
70 the University of Georgia, appointed by the dean of the College of Agricultural and  
71 Environmental Sciences of the University of Georgia, after consultation with the  
72 commission.

73 (B) No later than May 31, 2021, the dean of the College of Agricultural and  
74 Environmental Sciences of the University of Georgia shall appoint a new member as  
75 provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph whose term shall begin on July 1,  
76 2021, and such member shall serve a single term of five years. The successors to the  
77 member whose term ends on June 30, 2026, shall serve terms of four years that begin  
78 on July 1 of the year of their appointment. The term of the member appointed as  
79 provided for in subparagraph (A) of this paragraph and serving as of June 30, 2020,  
80 shall terminate on that date."

81 **SECTION 2.**

82 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
83 without such approval.

84 **SECTION 3.**

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