

The House Committee on Intragovernmental Coordination-Local Legislation offers the following substitute to HB 739:

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a new charter for the City of Blue Ridge in Fannin County,
2 approved March 21, 1989 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 3823), as amended, so as to provide for staggered
3 terms of the mayor and councilmembers; 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 to provide a new charter for the City of Blue Ridge in Fannin County, approved
8 March 21, 1989 (Ga. L. 1989, p. 3823), as amended, is amended by revising subsection (b)
9 of Section 2.10 as follows:

10 "(b) The mayor and councilmembers shall serve for staggered terms of four years and until
11 their respective successors are elected and qualified. No person shall be eligible to serve
12 as mayor or councilmember unless he or she shall have been a resident of this city for 12
13 months immediately preceding the election of mayor or councilmember. Each such person
14 shall continue to reside within the city during said period of service and shall be registered
15 and qualified to vote in municipal elections of the city. No person's name shall be listed
16 as a candidate on the ballot for election for either mayor or councilmember unless such

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17 person shall file a written notice with the clerk of said city that he or she desires his or her
18 name to be placed on said ballot as a candidate either for mayor or councilmember. No
19 person shall be eligible for the office of mayor or councilmember unless such person shall
20 file such notice within the time provided by Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A, the
21 'Georgia Election Code.'"

22 **SECTION 2.**

23 Said Act is further amended by revising subsection (e) of Section 2.11 as follows:

24 "(e)(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, the mayor and
25 councilmembers shall serve terms of four years. Municipal general elections for the city
26 shall be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November of odd-numbered years.
27 The terms of office for mayor and councilmembers shall begin at the time such individual
28 takes the oath of office provided for in Section 3.11 of this charter.

29 (2) The mayor and councilmembers for Posts 2 and 4 elected at the municipal general
30 election of 2021 shall serve a term of four years. The councilmembers for Posts 1, 3,
31 and 5 elected at the municipal general election of 2021 shall serve a term of two years.

32 (3) Nothing herein shall affect the term of office of the mayor and councilmembers
33 serving on the effective date of this Act."

34 **SECTION 3.**

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