

House Bill 1407

By: Representative Greene of the 151<sup>st</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a new charter for the City of Dawson, approved April 2, 2019  
2 (Ga. L. 2019, p. 3536), so as to increase the terms of office for future mayors and  
3 councilmembers to four years; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and  
4 for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

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

7 An Act to provide a new charter for the City of Dawson, approved April 2, 2019  
8 (Ga. L. 2019, p. 3536), is amended by revising subsection (a) of Section 2.11 as follows:  
9 "(a) Except as provided for in Section 5.11 of this charter, the mayor and members of the  
10 city council shall serve for terms of four years and until their respective successors are  
11 elected and qualified. No person shall be eligible to serve as mayor or councilmember  
12 unless that person shall have been a resident of the city for 12 months prior to the date of  
13 election of mayor or members of the council; each shall continue to reside therein during  
14 that member's period of service and to be registered and qualified to vote in municipal  
15 elections of this city. The mayor and members of the city council in office on the

16 effective date of this section shall serve out the terms to which they were originally  
17 elected."

18 **SECTION 2.**

19 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 5.11 as follows:

20 "SECTION 5.11.

21 Election of the city council and mayor.

22 (a) On the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2022, successors to the  
23 mayor and successors to the Ward 1, Ward 3, and Ward 4 councilmembers whose terms  
24 expire on December 31, 2022, shall be elected for a term of office expiring on  
25 December 31, 2025, or until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

26 (b) On the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, 2023, successors to the  
27 Ward 2, Ward 5, and Ward 6 councilmembers whose terms expire on December 31, 2023,  
28 shall be elected for a term of office expiring on December 31, 2027, or until their respective  
29 successors are elected and qualified.

30 (c) The general municipal election for the election of the mayor and councilmembers shall  
31 be conducted on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November in each  
32 odd-numbered year. Successors shall be elected to those offices the terms of which will  
33 expire on December 31 of such year. All persons elected to such offices shall take office on  
34 January 1 immediately following the date of the municipal election and shall have terms of  
35 office of four years and until their respective successors are elected and qualified."

36 **SECTION 3.**

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