House Bill 1411

By: Representatives Birdsong of the 123rd and Jenkins of the 110th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

To amend an Act creating a Board of Education of Jones County, approved March 21, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4459), as amended, particularly by an Act approved February 26, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 4707), so as to change the description of the districts from which members of such board are elected; to change such members´ terms of office; to define certain terms; to provide for the submission of this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965; to provide effective dates; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

SECTION 1.

An Act creating a Board of Education of Jones County, approved March 21, 1984 (Ga. L. 1984, p. 4459), as amended, particularly by an Act approved February 26, 1992 (Ga. L. 1992, p. 4707), is amended by striking Section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

″SECTION 2.

(a) The chairperson may reside anywhere within Jones County and shall be elected by the voters of the entire county. Each other member must be a resident of the district the member represents and shall be elected by only the voters of that district. All elections shall be by majority vote.

(b) For purposes of electing a Board of Education of Jones County, the Jones County School District shall be divided into four education districts as provided in this subsection. One member of the board shall be elected from each such district by the voters voting in only such district. The four education districts shall be and correspond to those four numbered districts described in and attached to and made a part of the 2002 amendatory Act to this Act and further identified as Plan Name: joneswk1 Plan Type: LOCAL User: staff Administrator: JONES.

(c) When used in such attachment, the terms 'Tract' and 'BG' (Block Group) shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a Tract description which are underneath a 'BG' heading shall mean and describe individual Blocks within a Block Group as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Jones County School District which is not included in any such district described in that attachment shall be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Any part of the Jones County School District which is described in that attachment as being in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia. Except as otherwise provided in the description of any education district, whenever the description of such district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census map for the United States decennial census of 2000 for the State of Georgia

(d)(1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the chairperson and each other member of the board shall serve for a term of four years beginning the first day of January next following his or her election. Those members serving in office on the effective date of this Act shall serve until the expiration of the term for which they were elected. Successors shall be elected thereafter at the general election immediately preceding the expiration of a term of office.

(2) At the general election held in November, 2002, the chairperson and the members of the board representing Education Districts 1 and 3 shall be elected to serve terms of four years. The members of the board representing Education Districts 2 and 4 shall be elected to serve terms of two years. Thereafter, their successors shall be elected to serve terms of four years as provided in this section.″

SECTION 2.

It is the purpose of this Act to reapportion the districts from which members of the Board of Education of Jones County are to be elected in the November, 2002, general election and in subsequent general elections, and this Act results from changes in population based on the United States decennial census of 2000. It is not the intention of the General Assembly to affect the membership of current members of the board or the manner in which their successors shall be elected, and such matters shall remain as provided by law on the effective

date of this Act until otherwise amended by law, except to the extent of reapportioning the districts represented by such members.

SECTION 3.

It shall be the duty of the attorney of the Board of Education of Jones County to submit this Act for approval pursuant to Section 5 of the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

SECTION 4.

The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the regular election in 2002 of members of the Board of Education of Jones County shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval; and this Act shall otherwise become effective January 1, 2003.

SECTION 5.

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