

Senate Bill 472

By: Senator Kennedy of the 18th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to organization and members of the Public Service Commission, so as to change the
3 description of the election districts for members of the Public Service Commission; to
4 provide for manner of election and terms of office; to provide for continuation in office of
5 current members; to provide for related matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 46 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
10 organization and members of the Public Service Commission, is amended by revising Code
11 Section 46-2-1, relating to election of Public Service Commissioners and terms of office, as
12 follows:

13 "46-2-1.

14 (a) The Georgia Public Service Commission shall consist of five members to be elected
15 as provided in this Code section. The members in office on January 1, ~~2012~~ 2022, and any
16 member appointed or elected to fill a vacancy in such membership prior to the expiration

17 of a term of office shall continue to serve out their respective terms of office. As terms of
18 office expire, new members elected to the commission shall be required to be residents of
19 one of five Public Service Commission Districts as hereafter provided, but each member of
20 the commission shall be elected state wide by the qualified voters of this state who are
21 entitled to vote for members of the General Assembly. Except as otherwise provided in this
22 Code section, the election shall be held under the same rules and regulations as apply to the
23 election of Governor. The Commissioners, who shall give their entire time to the duties of
24 their offices, shall be elected at the general election next preceding the expiration of the terms
25 of office of the respective incumbents. Their terms of office shall be six years and shall
26 expire on December 31.

27 (b) In order to be elected as a member of the commission from a Public Service
28 Commission District, a person shall have resided in that district for at least 12 months prior
29 to election thereto. A person elected as a member of the commission from a Public Service
30 Commission District by the voters of Georgia shall continue to reside in that district during
31 the person's term of office, or that office shall thereupon become vacant.

32 (c) For the purpose of electing the members of the Public Service Commission, this state
33 shall be divided into five Public Service Commission Districts described as follows:

34 ~~District 001~~

35 ~~Appling County~~

36 ~~Atkinson County~~

37 ~~Bacon County~~

38 ~~Baker County~~

39 ~~Ben Hill County~~

40 ~~Berrien County~~

41 ~~Brantley County~~

42 ~~Brooks County~~

43 ~~Bryan County~~

- 44 ~~Bulloch County~~
- 45 ~~Calhoun County~~
- 46 ~~Camden County~~
- 47 ~~Candler County~~
- 48 ~~Charlton County~~
- 49 ~~Chatham County~~
- 50 ~~Chattahoochee County~~
- 51 ~~Clay County~~
- 52 ~~Clinch County~~
- 53 ~~Coffee County~~
- 54 ~~Colquitt County~~
- 55 ~~Cook County~~
- 56 ~~Crisp County~~
- 57 ~~Decatur County~~
- 58 ~~Dodge County~~
- 59 ~~Dooly County~~
- 60 ~~Dougherty County~~
- 61 ~~Early County~~
- 62 ~~Echols County~~
- 63 ~~Effingham County~~
- 64 ~~Evans County~~
- 65 ~~Glynn County~~
- 66 ~~Grady County~~
- 67 ~~Irwin County~~
- 68 ~~Jeff Davis County~~
- 69 ~~Lanier County~~
- 70 ~~Lee County~~

- 71 ~~Liberty County~~
- 72 ~~Long County~~
- 73 ~~Lowndes County~~
- 74 ~~Macon County~~
- 75 ~~Marion County~~
- 76 ~~McIntosh County~~
- 77 ~~Miller County~~
- 78 ~~Mitchell County~~
- 79 ~~Montgomery County~~
- 80 ~~Muscogee County~~
- 81 ~~Pierce County~~
- 82 ~~Pulaski County~~
- 83 ~~Quitman County~~
- 84 ~~Randolph County~~
- 85 ~~Schley County~~
- 86 ~~Seminole County~~
- 87 ~~Stewart County~~
- 88 ~~Sumter County~~
- 89 ~~Tattnall County~~
- 90 ~~Telfair County~~
- 91 ~~Terrell County~~
- 92 ~~Thomas County~~
- 93 ~~Tift County~~
- 94 ~~Toombs County~~
- 95 ~~Turner County~~
- 96 ~~Ware County~~
- 97 ~~Wayne County~~

- 98 ~~Webster County~~
- 99 ~~Wheeler County~~
- 100 ~~Wilcox County~~
- 101 ~~Worth County~~

- 102 ~~District 002~~
- 103 ~~Baldwin County~~
- 104 ~~Barrow County~~
- 105 ~~Bibb County~~
- 106 ~~Bleckley County~~
- 107 ~~Burke County~~
- 108 ~~Clarke County~~
- 109 ~~Emanuel County~~
- 110 ~~Glascock County~~
- 111 ~~Greene County~~
- 112 ~~Gwinnett County~~
- 113 ~~Hancock County~~
- 114 ~~Houston County~~
- 115 ~~Jackson County~~
- 116 ~~Jasper County~~
- 117 ~~Jefferson County~~
- 118 ~~Jenkins County~~
- 119 ~~Johnson County~~
- 120 ~~Jones County~~
- 121 ~~Laurens County~~
- 122 ~~Morgan County~~
- 123 ~~Newton County~~

- 124 ~~Oconee County~~
- 125 ~~Putnam County~~
- 126 ~~Screven County~~
- 127 ~~Treutlen County~~
- 128 ~~Twiggs County~~
- 129 ~~Walton County~~
- 130 ~~Washington County~~
- 131 ~~Wilkinson County~~

- 132 ~~District 003~~
- 133 ~~Clayton County~~
- 134 ~~DeKalb County~~
- 135 ~~Fulton County~~
- 136 ~~Rockdale County~~

- 137 ~~District 004~~
- 138 ~~Banks County~~
- 139 ~~Bartow County~~
- 140 ~~Catoosa County~~
- 141 ~~Chattooga County~~
- 142 ~~Cherokee County~~
- 143 ~~Columbia County~~
- 144 ~~Dade County~~
- 145 ~~Dawson County~~
- 146 ~~Elbert County~~
- 147 ~~Fannin County~~
- 148 ~~Floyd County~~

- 149 ~~Forsyth County~~
- 150 ~~Franklin County~~
- 151 ~~Gilmer County~~
- 152 ~~Gordon County~~
- 153 ~~Habersham County~~
- 154 ~~Hall County~~
- 155 ~~Hart County~~
- 156 ~~Lincoln County~~
- 157 ~~Lumpkin County~~
- 158 ~~Madison County~~
- 159 ~~McDuffie County~~
- 160 ~~Murray County~~
- 161 ~~Oglethorpe County~~
- 162 ~~Pickens County~~
- 163 ~~Rabun County~~
- 164 ~~Richmond County~~
- 165 ~~Stephens County~~
- 166 ~~Taliaferro County~~
- 167 ~~Towns County~~
- 168 ~~Union County~~
- 169 ~~Walker County~~
- 170 ~~Warren County~~
- 171 ~~White County~~
- 172 ~~Whitfield County~~
- 173 ~~Wilkes County~~

- 174 ~~District 005~~

- 175 ~~Butts County~~
- 176 ~~Carroll County~~
- 177 ~~Cobb County~~
- 178 ~~Coweta County~~
- 179 ~~Crawford County~~
- 180 ~~Douglas County~~
- 181 ~~Fayette County~~
- 182 ~~Haralson County~~
- 183 ~~Harris County~~
- 184 ~~Heard County~~
- 185 ~~Henry County~~
- 186 ~~Lamar County~~
- 187 ~~Meriwether County~~
- 188 ~~Monroe County~~
- 189 ~~Paulding County~~
- 190 ~~Peach County~~
- 191 ~~Pike County~~
- 192 ~~Polk County~~
- 193 ~~Spalding County~~
- 194 ~~Talbot County~~
- 195 ~~Taylor County~~
- 196 ~~Troup County~~
- 197 ~~Upton County~~

- 198 District 001
- 199 Appling County
- 200 Atkinson County

- 201 Bacon County
- 202 Baker County
- 203 Baldwin County
- 204 Ben Hill County
- 205 Berrien County
- 206 Bibb County
- 207 Bleckley County
- 208 Brantley County
- 209 Brooks County
- 210 Bryan County
- 211 Calhoun County
- 212 Camden County
- 213 Charlton County
- 214 Chattahoochee County
- 215 Clay County
- 216 Clinch County
- 217 Coffee County
- 218 Colquitt County
- 219 Cook County
- 220 Crawford County
- 221 Crisp County
- 222 Decatur County
- 223 Dodge County
- 224 Dooly County
- 225 Dougherty County
- 226 Early County
- 227 Echols County

- 228 Evans County
- 229 Glynn County
- 230 Grady County
- 231 Harris County
- 232 Houston County
- 233 Irwin County
- 234 Jeff Davis County
- 235 Johnson County
- 236 Jones County
- 237 Lanier County
- 238 Laurens County
- 239 Lee County
- 240 Liberty County
- 241 Long County
- 242 Lowndes County
- 243 Macon County
- 244 Marion County
- 245 McIntosh County
- 246 Miller County
- 247 Mitchell County
- 248 Monroe County
- 249 Montgomery County
- 250 Muscogee County
- 251 Peach County
- 252 Pierce County
- 253 Pulaski County
- 254 Quitman County

- 255 Randolph County
- 256 Schley County
- 257 Seminole County
- 258 Stewart County
- 259 Sumter County
- 260 Talbot County
- 261 Tattnall County
- 262 Taylor County
- 263 Telfair County
- 264 Terrell County
- 265 Thomas County
- 266 Tift County
- 267 Toombs County
- 268 Treutlen County
- 269 Turner County
- 270 Twiggs County
- 271 Ware County
- 272 Wayne County
- 273 Webster County
- 274 Wheeler County
- 275 Wilcox County
- 276 Wilkinson County
- 277 Worth County

- 278 District 002
- 279 Banks County
- 280 Barrow County

- 281 Bulloch County
- 282 Burke County
- 283 Butts County
- 284 Candler County
- 285 Chatham County
- 286 Clarke County
- 287 Columbia County
- 288 Effingham County
- 289 Elbert County
- 290 Emanuel County
- 291 Glascock County
- 292 Greene County
- 293 Hancock County
- 294 Hart County
- 295 Henry County
- 296 Jackson County
- 297 Jasper County
- 298 Jefferson County
- 299 Jenkins County
- 300 Lincoln County
- 301 Madison County
- 302 McDuffie County
- 303 Morgan County
- 304 Newton County
- 305 Oconee County
- 306 Oglethorpe County
- 307 Putnam County

- 308 Richmond County
- 309 Rockdale County
- 310 Screven County
- 311 Spalding County
- 312 Taliaferro County
- 313 Walton County
- 314 Warren County
- 315 Washington County
- 316 Wilkes County

- 317 District 003
- 318 Clayton County
- 319 DeKalb County
- 320 Fulton County

- 321 District 004
- 322 Cherokee County
- 323 Dawson County
- 324 Fannin County
- 325 Forsyth County
- 326 Franklin County
- 327 Gilmer County
- 328 Gwinnett County
- 329 Habersham County
- 330 Hall County
- 331 Lumpkin County
- 332 Murray County

- 333 Pickens County
- 334 Rabun County
- 335 Stephens County
- 336 Towns County
- 337 Union County
- 338 White County
- 339 Whitfield County

- 340 District 005
- 341 Bartow County
- 342 Carroll County
- 343 Catoosa County
- 344 ChattooCounty County
- 345 Cobb County
- 346 Coweta County
- 347 Dade County
- 348 Douglas County
- 349 Fayette County
- 350 Floyd County
- 351 Gordon County
- 352 Haralson County
- 353 Heard County
- 354 Lamar County
- 355 Meriwether County
- 356 Paulding County
- 357 Pike County
- 358 Polk County

359 Troup County

360 Upson County

361 Walker County

362 (d) The first members of the commission elected under this Code section shall be elected
363 thereto on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November, ~~2012~~ 2024, from
364 Public Service Commission Districts 3 and 5, shall take office on the first day of January
365 immediately following that election, and shall serve for terms of office of six years and
366 until the election and qualification of their respective successors. Those members of the
367 commission elected thereto on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November,
368 ~~2014~~ 2026, from Public Service Commission Districts 1 and 4 shall take office on the first
369 day of January immediately following that election and shall serve for terms of office of
370 six years and until the election and qualification of their respective successors. The
371 member of the commission elected thereto on the Tuesday next following the first Monday
372 in November, ~~2016~~ 2022, from Public Service Commission District 2 shall take office on
373 the first day of January immediately following that election and shall serve for a term of
374 office of six years and until the election and qualification of his or her respective successor.
375 All future successors to members of the commission whose terms of office are to expire
376 shall be elected at the state-wide general election immediately preceding the expiration of
377 such terms, shall take office on the first day of January immediately following that election,
378 and shall serve for terms of office of six years."

379

SECTION 2.

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

382

SECTION 3.

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