

House Bill 961

By: Representative Lumsden of the 12<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a new charter for the City of Menlo, approved May 13, 2011  
2 (Ga. L. 2011, p. 4132), so as to provide that future mayors and councilmembers shall be  
3 elected to four-year terms of office; to provide for municipal general elections in  
4 odd-numbered years; to provide for interim terms of office; to provide for related matters;  
5 to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 An Act to provide a new charter for the City of Menlo, approved May 13, 2011 (Ga. L. 2011,  
9 p. 4132), is amended by revising Section 2.11 as follows:

10 "SECTION 2.11.

11 City council terms and qualifications for office.

12 Except as provided for in Section 5.11 of this charter, the mayor and members of the city  
13 council shall serve for terms of four years and until their respective successors are elected  
14 and qualified. No person shall be eligible to serve as mayor or councilmember unless that

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15 person shall have been a resident of the city for 12 months prior to the date of the election  
16 of mayor or members of the council. Any person elected as mayor or as a councilmember  
17 shall continue to reside therein during that person's period of service and shall continue to  
18 be registered and qualified to vote in municipal elections of this city."

19 **SECTION 2.**

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

21 "SECTION 5.11.

22 Election of the city council and mayor.

23 (a) Except as provided for in subsections (b) and (c) of this section, there shall be a  
24 municipal general election on the Tuesday next following the first Monday in November  
25 in each odd-numbered year.

26 (b)(1) The mayor and councilmembers in office on the effective date of this section shall  
27 serve out the terms to which they were elected.

28 (2) Notwithstanding subsection (a) of this section, the 2024 municipal general election  
29 provided for in the former provisions of this section shall be conducted on  
30 November 5, 2024.

31 (c) In the November, 2025, municipal general election, successors shall be elected for the  
32 mayor and the councilmembers holding Seats 1 and 2 on the council. Such successors shall  
33 take office on the first day of January, 2026, and serve for a term of four years and until  
34 their respective successors are elected and qualified at the November, 2029, municipal  
35 general election. Thereafter successors to the mayor and councilmembers holding Seats 1  
36 and 2 on the council shall be elected at the November municipal general election occurring  
37 immediately prior to the end of their terms of office, and such successors shall take office

38 on the first day of January immediately following such election and shall serve terms of  
39 four years and until their respective successors are elected and qualified.

40 (d) At the November, 2024, municipal general election, successors shall be elected for the  
41 councilmembers holding Seats 3, 4, and 5 on the council. Such successors shall take office  
42 on the first day of January, 2025, and serve for initial terms of three years and until their  
43 respective successors are elected and qualified at the November, 2027, municipal general  
44 election. Thereafter successors to the councilmembers holding Seats 3, 4, and 5 on the  
45 council shall be elected at the November municipal general election occurring immediately  
46 prior to the end of their terms of office, and such successors shall take office on the first  
47 day of January immediately following such election and shall serve terms of four years and  
48 until their respective successors are elected and qualified."

49 **SECTION 3.**

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