

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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SENATE BILL 663
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/22/95

Short Title: Amend Various Local Laws.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 11, 1995

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT MAKING A QUALIFIED EXCEPTION FOR THE CITY OF WILMINGTON
3 AND NEW HANOVER COUNTY FROM THE PUBLIC RECORDS ACT FOR
4 CERTAIN GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS; TO PROVIDE THAT
5 THE MERGER OF THE ALAMANCE COUNTY SCHOOLS AND THE
6 BURLINGTON CITY SCHOOLS MAY BECOME EFFECTIVE ONLY IF
7 APPROVED BY THE VOTERS OF ALAMANCE COUNTY; TO REDUCE FROM
8 ELEVEN TO SEVEN THE NUMBER OF GUILFORD COUNTY
9 COMMISSIONERS AND TO REDISTRIBUTE THE GUILFORD COUNTY BOARD
10 OF COMMISSIONERS, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM; AND TO PROVIDE
11 FOR PARTISAN ELECTIONS IN THE CITY OF HIGH POINT, IF APPROVED
12 BY REFERENDUM.
13 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:
14 Section 1. Section 2 of Chapter 82 of the 1993 Session Laws reads as
15 rewritten:
16 "Sec. 2. This act applies to the Cities of ~~Greensboro and High Point and Guilford County~~
17 ~~and Pitt County and Mecklenburg County and Nash County~~ Greensboro, High Point, and

1 Wilmington and the Counties of Guilford, Nash, New Hanover, Mecklenburg, and Pitt
2 only."

3 Sec. 2. Notwithstanding G.S. 115C-68.1(c), "A Plan for the Merger of the
4 Alamance County Schools and the Burlington City Schools", dated June 14, 1994, may
5 become effective only when approved by the qualified voters of Alamance County. The
6 Board of Commissioners may provide by resolution or ordinance for a referendum to take
7 place at the time of the statewide primary election in 1996 or, if there is a statewide
8 election at an earlier date, on that earlier date. The county board of elections shall
9 advertise and conduct the referendum in accordance with the procedures in Chapter 163
10 of the General Statutes governing the conduct of special and general elections.

11 Sec. 3. (a) Effective on the first Monday in December in 1998, the Board of
12 Commissioners of Guilford County consists of seven members. The members shall be
13 elected on a partisan basis at the time of the regular county primary and general elections.
14 One shall be elected from each of seven single-member districts established under
15 subsection (e) of this section.

16 (b) In 1998 and every four years thereafter, members for Districts 3 and 4 shall be
17 elected for four-year terms. In 1998 and every four years thereafter, members for
18 Districts 1, 6, and 7 shall be elected to four-year terms. In 2000, the members from
19 Districts 2 and 5 shall be elected to two-year terms, and in 2002 and every four years
20 thereafter, successors shall be elected for four-year terms. Steve Arnold, who was elected
21 in 1994 for a four-year term, is designated as the member from District 1 until the first
22 Monday in December of 1996. Withers G. Dunovant, who was elected in 1994 for a
23 four-year term, is designated as the member from District 2. Charles Winfree, who was
24 elected in 1994 for a four-year term, is designated as the member from District 5. Joe E.
25 Bostic, Jr., who was elected in 1994 for a four-year term, is designated as the member
26 from District 6. Warren Dorsett, who was elected in 1994 for a four-year term, is
27 designated as the member from District 7.

28 (c) The districts set out in subsection (e) of this section are devised and constituted
29 to meet the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and other
30 applicable constitutional provisions.

31 (d) The qualified voters of each district shall elect the member of the board for that
32 district. Candidates must reside in the district for which they seek to be elected.

33 (e) The districts are as follows:

34 (1) District 1 consists of Greensboro Precinct 43; High Point
35 Precincts 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17A, 17B, 20A, 20B, 23,
36 24A, 24B; and Deep River, Oak Ridge, and Stokesdale Precincts.

37 (2) District 2 consists of Greensboro Precincts 6, 8A, 8B, 23, 26A,
38 29, 42A, and 42B; High Point Precincts 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 19, and
39 22; and Friendship 2 Precinct.

40 (3) District 3 consists of Greensboro Precincts 24A, 24B1, 24B2,
41 24C, 26B, 36A, and 36B; High Point Precincts 13, 14, 18, and
42 21; Jamestown Precincts 1, 2A, 2B, and 3; and North Sumner,
43 South Sumner 1, and South Sumner 2.

- 1 (4) District 4 consists of Greensboro Precincts 33A and 33B;
2 Fentress Precincts 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B; and Gibsonville, Greene,
3 North Clay, South Clay, North Jefferson 1, North Jefferson 2,
4 South Jefferson, North Madison, South Madison, North
5 Washington, South Washington, South Monroe 1, South Monroe
6 2, and Whitsett Precincts.
- 7 (5) District 5 consists of Greensboro Precincts 10, 11, 12, 13, 15,
8 16A, 16B, 17, 18, 28, 31, 35A, 35B, 35C, 40B, 41A, and 41B;
9 and North Monroe, North Center Grove, and South Center Grove
10 Precincts.
- 11 (6) District 6 consists of Greensboro Precincts 20, 21A, 21B, 22A,
12 22B, 27A, 27B, 27C, 32, 34A, 34B, 37A, 37B, 38, 39A, 39B,
13 40A1, and 40A2; Friendship Precincts 1A, 1B1, and 1B2, and
14 North Bruce and South Bruce Precincts.
- 15 (7) District 7 consists of Greensboro Precincts 1A, 1B, 2, 3, 4, 5A,
16 5B, 7, 9, 14A, 14B, 19, 25, 30, 44, and 45.

17 (f) Precincts as mentioned in subsection (e) of this section are the official
18 precincts of Guilford County as of April 1, 1995.

19 Sec. 4. Sections 3 and 6 of this act become effective only if approved by the
20 qualified voters of Guilford County in a referendum. The election shall be conducted by
21 the Guilford County Board of Elections at the time set for the 1996 general election in
22 Guilford County. The question on the ballot shall be:

23 **"[] FOR [] AGAINST**
24 **REDUCING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**
25 **FROM ELEVEN TO SEVEN MEMBERS,**
26 **TO BE ELECTED FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS".**

27 Sec. 5. If the majority of votes cast are cast FOR the question, then effective
28 upon the certification of the results of the election, Section 3 of the act becomes effective
29 for the next county primary and general election following the referendum.

30 Sec. 6. If the Attorney General of the United States interposes objection to
31 Sections 3, 4, and 5 of this act under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as
32 amended, the Board of Commissioners of Guilford County shall enact an alternative plan
33 for the election of the Board of Commissioners of Guilford County that:

- 34 (1) Provides for no more than seven commissioners; and
35 (2) Will meet the requirements of the Attorney General of the United States
36 and shall submit that new plan to the Attorney General under section 5 of the Voting
37 Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

38 Sec. 7. Section 3.1 of the Charter of the City of High Point, being Chapter 501
39 of the Session Laws of 1979, as amended under Part 4 of Article 5 of Chapter 160A of
40 the General Statutes, is rewritten to read:

41 "Sec. 3.1. Method of election. Regular municipal elections shall be held in the City
42 biennially in odd-numbered years, and shall be conducted in accordance with State law

1 governing municipal elections. The mayor and members of the council shall be elected
2 by the partisan primary election and method provided for in G.S. 163-291."

3 Sec. 8. Section 7 of this act becomes effective only if approved by the
4 qualified voters of the City of High Point in a referendum. The election shall be
5 conducted by the Guilford County Board of Elections at the time set for the 1995
6 municipal general election in the City of High Point. The question on the ballot shall be:

7 "FOR AGAINST
8 **PARTISAN ELECTION OF THE MAYOR AND**
9 **MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL".**

10 Sec. 9. If the majority of votes are cast FOR the question, then effective upon
11 the certification of the results of the election, Section 7 of this act becomes effective for
12 the next municipal primary and general election following the referendum.

13 Sec. 10. Section 2 of this act applies to Alamance County only.

14 Sec. 11. This act is effective upon ratification. In case of any conflict between
15 Sections 7, 8, and 9 of this act and ordinances amending the High Point City Charter
16 under Part 4 of Article 5 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes, including those of
17 April 14, 1986, and November 20, 1986, this act prevails to the extent of the conflict.