

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 540
State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 5/12/09

Short Title: Pleasant Garden/Voters Elect Mayor.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 12, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AMENDING THE CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF PLEASANT GARDEN TO
3 CHANGE THE STAGGERING OF TERMS OF THE TOWN COUNCIL.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Chapter III of the Charter of the Town of Pleasant Garden, being S.L.
6 1997-344, as amended by resolution R48-070313 of the Pleasant Garden Town Council
7 adopted April 10, 2007, under Part 4 of Article 5 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes and
8 as codified by the Town Council on August 12, 2008, reads as rewritten:

9 "CHAPTER III.

10 "GOVERNING BODY.

11 "Section 3-1. **Structure of the Governing Body; Number of Members.**

12 The governing body of the Town of Pleasant Garden is the Town Council which ~~has~~has,
13 beginning with the organizational meeting after the 2009 municipal election, five members~~four~~
14 members and the Mayor.

15 "Section 3-2. **Manner of Electing Council.**

16 The qualified voters of the entire Town nominate and elect the council.

17 "Section 3-3. **Term of Office of Council Members.**

18 Members of the Council are elected to four-year terms. ~~In 1999, five members shall be elected~~
19 ~~to the Council. The three members receiving the highest number of votes shall serve four year~~
20 ~~terms. The two receiving the next highest number of votes shall serve two year terms. In 2001,~~
21 ~~and quadrennially thereafter, two members shall be elected to the Council. In 2003, and~~
22 ~~quadrennially thereafter, three members shall be elected to the Council.~~In 2007, three members
23 of the Council were elected for four-year terms. In 2009, one member is elected for a four-year
24 term. In 2011, three members are elected to the Council with the two persons receiving the
25 highest numbers of votes receiving four-year terms and the person receiving the third highest
26 number of votes receiving a two-year term. In 2013, and biennially thereafter, two members are
27 elected to the Council for four-year terms.

28 "Section 3-4. **Mayor; Term of Office.**

29 ~~Pleasant Garden shall hold Mayoral elections every two years by making one of the existing~~
30 ~~five council member seats the mayor seat. The other existing seats will remain at large to be~~
31 ~~elected on staggered terms. These council member elections shall continue to be for four year~~
32 ~~terms. The Mayor will have the right to vote on any matter before the Council.~~

33 ~~Upon expiration of the term for the council members elected in 2005, the Guilford County~~
34 ~~Board of Elections shall conduct an election for the mayoral seat and one council seat in~~
35 ~~accordance with the North Carolina General Statutes in 2009.~~Effective with the 2009 municipal
36 election, the Mayor is elected biennially for a two-year term. The Mayor will have the right to
37 vote on any matter before the Council."



1 **SECTION 2.** Section 4-1 of the Charter of the Town of Pleasant Garden, being
2 S.L. 1997-344, reads as rewritten:
3 "Sec. 4-1. **Method.** ~~Council members~~Elections shall be ~~elected~~conducted on a nonpartisan
4 primary basis and the results determined in accordance with G.S. 163-294."
5 **SECTION 3.** This act is effective when it becomes law.