

**CATOOSA COUNTY — BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS;
CREATION; DISTRICTS; ELECTIONS; TERMS;
REFERENDUM.**

No. 983 (House Bill No. 1775).

AN ACT

To amend an Act creating the office of Commissioner of Catoosa County, approved February 12, 1943 (Ga. L. 1943, p. 858), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 19, 1987 (Ga. L. 1987, p. 4290), so as to provide for a board of commissioners; to provide for the election of board members from districts by residents of such districts; to provide for commissioner districts; to provide for terms; to provide for compensation of the board; to provide for compensation of its employees; to provide for meetings of the board; to provide for paying the cost of certain insurance for county employees and elected officials; to provide for continuation of participation of such employees and officials in such program of insurance under certain conditions; to provide for all related matters; to provide for a referendum; 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 the office of Commissioner of Catoosa County, approved February 12, 1943 (Ga. L. 1943, p. 858), as amended, particularly by an Act approved March 19, 1987 (Ga. L. 1987, p. 4290), is amended by striking Section 1 of said Act in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 1 to read as follows:

“Section 1. (a) There is created the Board of Commissioners of Catoosa County. The board shall be composed of five members, one from each district as defined in Section 2 of this Act. The member elected from Commissioner District 5 shall be the chairman.

(b) To be eligible to offer for election to the board, a person must reside within the district from which he or she

offers and shall be in all other respects qualified to hold public office in this state. Upon election, if a member moves such member's residence from the district from which elected, such member's position shall automatically become vacant.

(c) Only the qualified electors of a district shall be entitled to vote for candidates seeking office from such district. Election of a member from a district shall be solely by the qualified voters who reside in such district except that the member elected from Commissioner District 5 shall be elected by the voters from the entire county.”

Section 2. Said Act is further amended by striking Section 2 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 2 to read as follows:

“Section 2. (a) For the purpose of electing members of the board of commissioners, Catoosa County shall be divided into five commissioner districts as follows:

Commissioner District 1

Catoosa

Tract 304

Block 339

Tract 306

Blocks 113 through 117, 119, 120, 122 through 128, 138, 146 through 148, 152, 164, 166, 167, and 199

Blocks 222, 223, 228, 229, 231, 232, 242, 244, 245, and 251

Blocks 301 through 303, 305 through 307, 310, 320 through 324, 338, 340, 342, and 343

Tract 307

Blocks 101, 107, 108, 110, 111, and 113

That part of Block 120 inside the City of Fort Oglethorpe

Blocks 121, 122, 133, 138, and 139

That part of Block 140 inside the City of Fort Oglethorpe

Blocks 142, 143, and 154 through 166

That part of Block 201 inside the City of Fort Oglethorpe

Blocks 202 through 204, 206 through 208,
211, 214 through 217, 219 through 224,
244 through 246, 248, 249, 252, 262
through 266, 268, 269, and 271 through 276
That part of Block 277 inside the City of
Fort Oglethorpe
Block 297
Blocks 306 and 308 through 316
That part of Block 319 inside the City of
Fort Oglethorpe
Blocks 320 through 331 and 341 through 343

Commissioner District 2

Catoosa

Tract 303
That part of Block 101 south of the
Georgia Power line

Tract 302
Blocks 510 through 512

Tract 303
Blocks 102 through 114
Blocks 415, 416, and 418 through 424
Blocks 513 through 525

Tract 304
Blocks 203, 204, 207, 210, 212 through
214, and 235 through 242
Blocks 332 through 338
Blocks 401 through 431
Blocks 502 through 515

Tract 307
Those parts of Blocks 120 and 140 outside
the City of Fort Oglethorpe
Those parts of Blocks 201 and 277 outside
the City of Fort Oglethorpe
That part of Block 319 outside the City
of Fort Oglethorpe
Blocks 401 through 420

Commissioner District 3

Catoosa

Tract 302
Blocks 104 through 107

That part of Block 108 west of Ross
Hollow Branch
Blocks 112 through 117
Blocks 501 through 505
That part of Block 506 west of Ross
Hollow Branch
Block 509
Tract 304
Block Group 1
Blocks 215, 218, 219, 221, 243, and 244
Blocks 312 and 314 through 331
Tract 305
Tract 306
Blocks 101 through 107
Blocks 311, 312, 315, 316, 325 through
327, and 339
Block Group 4

Commissioner District 4

Catoosa

Tract 301
Tract 302
Blocks 101 through 103
That part of Block 108 east of Ross
Hollow Branch
Blocks 109 through 111
Block Groups 2 and 3
That part of Block 506 east of Ross
Hollow Branch
Blocks 507 and 508
Tract 303
That part of Block 101 north of the
Georgia Power line
Blocks 401 through 414 and 417
Tract 304
Blocks 301 through 310 and 313
Block 501

Commissioner District 5

The entire geographic area of Catoosa County

(b) For the purposes of this section:

(1) The terms 'Tract' or 'Census Tract,' 'Block Group,' and 'Block' shall mean and shall describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 1980 for the State of Georgia.

(2) Any part of Catoosa County which is not included in any district described in this section shall be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 1980 for the State of Georgia."

Section 3. Said Act is further amended by striking Section 3 in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 3 to read as follows:

"Section 3. At the general election to be held in November, 1992, there shall be elected the five members of the board of commissioners from the districts described in Section 2 of this Act. The members from Districts 2 and 4 shall take office on January 1 following their election and shall serve for terms of two years and until their successors are elected and qualified. The members elected from Districts 1, 3, and 5 shall take office on January 1 following their election and shall serve for terms of four years and until their successors are elected and qualified. Thereafter, successors shall be elected at the general election next preceding the expiration of terms of office and shall take office on January 1 following the election for terms of four years and until successors are elected and qualified."

Section 4. Said Act is further amended by adding a new Section 3A to read as follows:

"Section 3A. On and after January 1, 1993, any reference in this Act to the commissioner shall mean the Board of Commissioners of Catoosa County as provided for in this Act."

Section 5. Said Act is further amended by striking subsection (b) of Section 9 of said Act in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The commissioner may employ one administrative assistant. The salary of such assistant shall be as established by the commissioner but shall not exceed \$33,500.00 per year. The commissioner may also employ clerical assistants. The salaries of such assistants shall be determined by the commissioner but the total amount of such salaries shall not exceed \$45,000.00 per year. In the event the maximum allowance for the assistant or clerical assistance is not needed for such purpose, the unused portion thereof shall remain as part of the general funds of the county."

Section 6. Said Act is further amended by inserting a new Section 9A to read as follows:

"Section 9A. (a) Each member of the Board of Commissioners of Catoosa County shall receive an annual salary of \$4,800.00 to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of Catoosa County. The chairman of the board shall receive an annual salary of \$6,500.00 to be paid in equal monthly installments from the funds of the county. The members and chairman of the board shall also be reimbursed by the county for their actual expenses they may incur in the performance of the official duties of their office.

(b) The board shall maintain an office at the courthouse to be kept open from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Monday through Friday, except holidays.

(c) The board of commissioners shall meet on the first Tuesday of every month at the courthouse. The board shall have the right to hold special sessions when, in its discretion, the business of the county may require. Special sessions shall be called by the chairman or by a majority of the board, provided that each board member shall be personally notified not less than 72 hours prior to any such special meeting. Three members of the board shall constitute a quorum at any regular or special session of the board."

Section 7. Said Act is further amended by striking Section 11A of said Act in its entirety and inserting in lieu thereof a new Section 11A to read as follows:

"Section 11A. (a) The commissioner shall provide hospitalization insurance for all employees, including elected

officials, whose salaries are paid from county funds. The entire cost of such insurance for individual coverage of such employees and officials shall be paid from county funds. Fifty percent of the cost of such insurance for family coverage for such employees and officials shall be paid from county funds and 50 percent of the cost of such insurance for family coverage shall be paid by the employee or official. The commissioner may, however, continue paying from the county treasury the entire cost of hospitalization insurance for persons employed in positions for which hospitalization insurance has been provided entirely from county funds prior to July 1, 1973.

(b) Any employee of the county, including elected officials, may continue to participate in the hospitalization insurance program after leaving county employment or after ceasing to hold such public office if:

(1) Such person was employed by the county or served in such office for at least 15 years; and

(2) Such person pays to the county the full cost of such insurance in advance."

Section 8. Unless prohibited by the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the election superintendent of Catoosa County shall call and conduct an election as provided in this section for the purpose of submitting this Act to the electors of Catoosa County for approval or rejection. The election superintendent shall conduct that election on the date of the general election in November, 1990, and shall issue the call therefor not less than 30 nor more than 60 days prior to that date. The superintendent shall cause the date and purpose of the election to be published once a week for two weeks immediately preceding the date thereof in the official organ of Catoosa County. The ballot shall have written or printed thereon the words:

- "() YES Shall the Act be approved which provides for the election of a board of commissioners from districts in Catoosa County?"
- () NO

All persons desiring to vote for approval of the Act shall vote "Yes," and those persons desiring to vote for rejection of the Act shall vote "No." If more than one-half of the votes cast on such question are for approval of the Act, it shall become of full force and effect immediately. If the Act is not so approved or if the election is not conducted as provided in this section, Sections 1 through 4 and Section 6 of this Act and this section shall not become effective and shall be automatically repealed on the first day of January immediately following that election date.

The expense of such election shall be borne by Catoosa County. It shall be the superintendent's duty to certify the result thereof to the Secretary of State.

Section 9. Sections 5 and 7 of this Act shall become effective on the first day of the month following the month in which it is approved by the Governor or in which it becomes law without such approval.

Section 10. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

STATE OF GEORGIA
CATOOSA COUNTY

Before me, an officer duly authorized by law to administer oaths, appeared Jim Caldwell, who on oath states that he is publisher of THE CATOOSA COUNTY NEWS, a newspaper of general circulation and one in which Sheriff's advertisements are published in Catoosa County, Georgia, and that the notice shown below has been duly and regularly published in THE CATOOSA COUNTY NEWS one times, on the issues dated, to-wit: January 13, 1988

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO INTRODUCE LOCAL
LEGISLATION

Notice is given that there will be introduced at the Regular 1988 session of the General Assembly of Georgia a bill to provide for the election of a Board of Commissioners of Catoosa County; to provide for districts; to provide for the manner of elections; to provide for the terms, hours, duties, and compensation of