

House Bill 508

By: Representatives Glanton of the 75th, Stovall of the 74th, Burnough of the 77th, Scott of the 76th, and Bazemore of the 63rd

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to provide a new charter for the City of Morrow, approved June 3, 2003
2 (Ga. L. 2003, p. 4214), as amended, so as to provide for a governing authority; to create
3 districts for the election of members of the governing authority; to provide for definitions and
4 inclusions; to provide for method of election; to provide for the continuation in office of
5 current members; to provide for related matters; to provide for effective dates; to repeal
6 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act to provide a new charter for the City of Morrow, approved June 3, 2003 (Ga. L.
10 2003, p. 4214), is amended by revising Section 2.10 as follows:

11 **"SECTION 2.10.**

12 City council creation; number; election.

13 The legislative authority of the government of this city, except as otherwise specifically
14 provided in this charter, shall be vested in a city council to be composed of a mayor and
15 four councilmembers. The city council established shall in all respects be a successor to
16 and continuation of the governing authority under prior law. The mayor shall be elected
17 at large by the qualified voters of the city. The councilmembers shall be elected in the
18 manner provided by general law and this charter."

19 **SECTION 2.**

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

"SECTION 5.11.

Election of the city council.

(a) For the purpose of electing the four councilmembers of the City of Morrow, the city shall be divided into four districts. Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 shall correspond to those four numbered districts described in a plan and attached to and made a part of this Act and further identified as 'Plan: morrow-p1-2016 Plan Type: Local Administrator: HD75 User: Gina.'

(b)(1) For the purposes of such plan:

(A) The term 'VTD' shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a district description which are underneath a 'VTD' heading shall mean and describe individual blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia; and

(B) Except as otherwise provided in the description of any district, whenever the description of any district refers to a named city, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that city as shown on the census maps for the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

(2) Any part of City of Morrow that is not included in any district described in subsection (a) of 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 2010 for the State of Georgia.

(3) Any part of City of Morrow which is described in subsection (a) of this section as being included in a particular district shall nevertheless not be included within such district if such part is not contiguous to such district. Such noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that district contiguous to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial census of 2010 for the State of Georgia.

(c) There shall be one member of the city council elected by each district. A candidate shall designate the district for which such candidate offers for election. Candidates shall have been a resident of the district for which such candidate offers for election for at least 12 months prior to the date of election. Members of the city council shall be elected by qualified electors of the district for which they offer for election. The election of members of the city council shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 2 of Title 21 of the O.C.G.A., the 'Georgia Election Code.'

(d) The members of the city council elected in the November, 2013, general election shall continue in office for the terms to which they were elected and until successors are elected

58 and qualified as provided in this Act. The members of the city council elected in the
59 November, 2015, general election shall continue in office for the terms to which they were
60 elected and until successors are elected and qualified as provided in this Act.

61 (e) The first members of the reconstituted governing authority of City of Morrow from
62 Districts 1 and 3 shall be elected in the November, 2017, general election. Such members
63 shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their
64 successors are elected and qualified.

65 (f) The first members of the reconstituted governing authority of City of Morrow from
66 Districts 2 and 4 shall be elected in the November, 2019, general election. Such members
67 shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and until their
68 successors are elected and qualified.

69 (g) Successors to members elected under subsections (e) and (f) of this section shall be
70 elected in the November general election next preceding the expiration of such terms of
71 office and shall take office on January 1 following their election for terms of four years and
72 until their successors are elected and qualified."

73 **SECTION 3.**

74 The provisions of this Act relating to and necessary for the 2017 regular election of members
75 of the governing authority of the City of Morrow shall become effective upon its approval
76 by the Governor or upon its becoming effective without such approval; and this Act shall
77 otherwise become effective January 1, 2018.

78 **SECTION 4.**

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