

Senate Bill 284

By: Senator Sims of the 12th

AS PASSED SENATE

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1 To amend an Act to create a board of elections and registration for Randolph County and to
 2 provide for its powers and duties, approved May 3, 2017 (Ga. L. 2017, p. 3723), so as to
 3 expand the board from three to five members; to provide for the appointment and terms of
 4 board members; to provide for the nomination of certain potential board members; to provide
 5 for oath for new members; to provide for election of chair of the board; to provide for related
 6 matters; to provide an effective date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 An Act to create a board of elections and registration for Randolph County and to provide
 10 for its powers and duties, approved May 3, 2017 (Ga. L. 2017, p. 3723), is amended by
 11 revising Section 2 as follows:

12 "SECTION 2.

13 The joint board shall be composed of five members, each of whom shall be an elector and
 14 resident of Randolph County and who shall be selected in the following manner:

15 (1) One member shall be appointed by the governing authority of Randolph County, one
 16 member shall be appointed by the governing authority of the City of Cuthbert, and one

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17 member shall be appointed by the governing authority of the City of Shellman. The
18 members appointed by the governing authorities of the City of Cuthbert and the City of
19 Shellman shall be residents of those cities.

20 (2) The initial appointee of Randolph County shall serve for a term beginning
21 July 1, 2017, and expiring on June 30, 2021. Thereafter, the appointees of Randolph
22 County shall serve for terms of four years beginning on the first day of July immediately
23 following the expiration of the appointee's term of office and until a successor is
24 appointed and qualified. The initial appointees of the City of Cuthbert and the City of
25 Shellman shall serve for a term beginning July 1, 2017, and expiring on June 30, 2019.
26 Thereafter, the appointees of the City of Cuthbert and the City of Shellman shall serve
27 for terms of four years beginning on the first day of July immediately following the
28 expiration of the appointee's term of office and until a successor is appointed and
29 qualified.

30 (3) In addition to the appointments provided for in paragraph (1) of this section, the
31 governing authority of Randolph County shall appoint two members from nominees
32 selected in the following manner:

33 (A) One member of the board shall be selected from a list of nominees provided by the
34 county executive committee of the political party whose candidate for the office of
35 Governor at the last election for such office received the highest number of votes cast
36 for such office within Randolph County; and

37 (B) One member of the board shall be selected from a list of nominees provided by the
38 county executive committee of the political party whose candidate for the office of
39 Governor at the last election for such office received the second highest number of
40 votes cast for such office within Randolph County.

41 (4) The terms for the initial appointments made pursuant to paragraph (3) of this section
42 shall begin on July 1, 2021, and shall expire on June 30, 2024. Thereafter, the members
43 appointed pursuant to paragraph (3) of this section shall serve for terms of four years

44 beginning on the first day of July immediately following the expiration of the appointee's
45 term of office and until a successor is appointed and qualified.

46 (5) Members appointed pursuant to paragraph (3) of this section shall be initially
47 nominated by the chairperson of the political party with such nomination being ratified
48 by the county executive committee of such party. Such political party or parties, as the
49 case may be, shall complete the nomination process at least 30 days before the beginning
50 of a term of office or within 30 days after the creation of a vacancy in such office."

51 **SECTION 2.**

52 Said Act is further amended by revising Section 5 as follows:

53 "SECTION 5.

54 Before entering upon their duties, each member of the board shall take substantially the
55 same oath as required by general law for registrars. Each member shall have the same
56 privileges from arrest as registrars. Each member shall pledge to refrain from engaging in
57 political activity or advocacy that would cast doubt on his or her ability to fairly and
58 impartially execute his or her duties as a member of the board."

59 **SECTION 3.**

60 Said Act is further amended in Section 8 by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

61 "(d) The chair of the board shall be elected by majority vote of all members of the board."

62 **SECTION 4.**

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