

HOUSE BILL 2550

By Pody

AN ACT to amend Chapter 50 of the Private Acts of 1971; as amended by Chapter 128 of the Private Acts of 1973; Chapter 148 of the Private Acts of 1973; Chapter 212 of the Private Acts of 1978; and any other acts amendatory thereto, relative to the Wilson County Board of Education.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Chapter 50 of the Private Acts of 1971, as amended by Chapter 148 of the Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 212 of the Private Acts of 1978, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting Section 1 in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1.

Wilson County shall be divided into seven (7) school districts of substantially equal population, which shall be established by resolution of the county legislative body of Wilson County. One (1) member of the Wilson County board of education shall be elected by the qualified voters in each school district. Board members shall be elected to staggered four-year terms so that every two (2) years the terms of approximately one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the members of the board shall expire, with the odd-numbered districts expiring at the same time, and the even-numbered districts expiring at the same time. Persons elected in the regular August elections shall take office on September 1 following the election and shall serve until their successors are duly elected and qualified.

During the transition from five (5) districts as provided under prior law, to the seven (7) districts as provided for in this act, all incumbent board members

shall remain on the board until the expiration of their current terms. After the approval of this act, as provided in Section 5, the Wilson County legislative body shall fill the vacancies resulting from the creation of the new offices by appointment of two (2) members to the board who shall serve until successors are elected at the next general election in August 2016 and qualified according to law. In order to maintain a board with staggered four-year terms, one (1) member of the board shall be elected at the August 2016 general election to a four-year term to fill one (1) of the newly created offices and one (1) member of the board shall be elected to a two-year term to fill the other newly created office. Thereafter, board members shall be elected to four-year terms as the term of each respective board member expires.

SECTION 2. Chapter 50 of the Private Acts of 1971, as amended by Chapter 128 of the Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 212 of the Private Acts of 1978, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting the following language from Section 2:

The County Board of Education shall consist of five (5) members who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the County as follows:

and by substituting instead:

The county board of education shall consist of seven (7) members who shall be elected by the qualified voters of the county.

SECTION 3. Chapter 50 of the Private Acts of 1971, as amended by Chapter 128 of the Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 212 of the Private Acts of 1978, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting the following language from Section 2:

One member of the County Board of Education shall be elected from each zone by the qualified voters thereof. Members must reside in the school zone from which they are elected.

and by substituting instead:

One (1) member of the county board of education shall be elected from each school district by the qualified voters thereof. Members must reside in the school district from which they are elected.

SECTION 4. Chapter 50 of the Private Acts of 1971, as amended by Chapter 128 of the Private Acts of 1973, Chapter 212 of the Private Acts of 1978, and any other acts amendatory thereto, is amended by deleting the following language from Section 2:

Members of the County Board of Education shall be elected at the General County Elections in August and shall assume office on September 1 following their election, and, except as hereinafter provided, shall serve for terms of six (6) years or until their successors are elected and qualified.

The first members of the County Board of Education shall be elected at the first county wide election to be held in Wilson County, if any such county wide election shall be held, for any reason, prior to August 1, 1971. If it shall appear to the Wilson County General Election Commission that no such county wide election shall be held for any reason prior to August 1, 1971, then, the Wilson County General Election Commission shall cause to be held a special county wide election for the election of the County Board of Education members and will call and set the date for such election so that said election may be held not later than August 15, 1971. The Wilson County General Election Commission shall be the sole judge of whether such special election is necessary rather than being held in conjunction with another county wide election. At such election the members elected from Zone 1 shall serve for a term of one (1) year ending August 31, 1972, the members elected from Zone 2 and 3 shall serve a three (3) year term ending August 31, 1974, and the members elected from Zones 4 and 5 shall serve a five (5) year term ending August 31, 1976. Thereafter, when each of the last above described terms shall have expired, successors to each member's seat on the Board shall be elected for full six (6) year terms.

The offices and terms of all members of the presently serving County Board of Education shall expire on August 31, 1971.

SECTION 5. This act shall have no effect unless it is approved by a majority of the number of qualified voters of Wilson County voting in an election on the question of whether or not the act should be approved. The ballots used in the regular election to be held on August 7, 2014, shall have printed on them the substance of this act and the voters shall vote for or against its approval. The votes cast on the question shall be canvassed and the results proclaimed by the county election commissioners and certified by them to the secretary of state as provided by law in the case of general elections. The qualifications of voters voting on the question shall be the same as those required for participation in general elections. All laws applicable to general elections shall apply to the determination of the approval or rejection of this act.

SECTION 6. For the purpose of approving or rejecting the provisions of this act, as provided in Section 5, it shall be effective upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it, but for all other purposes the provisions of the act shall be effective only upon being approved as provided in Section 5, the public welfare requiring it.