

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1989

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SENATE BILL 643

Short Title: Cabarrus Commissioners Election.

(Local)

Sponsors: Senator Johnson of Cabarrus.

Referred to: Local Government and Regional Affairs.

March 27, 1989

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO EXPAND THE SIZE OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CABARRUS COUNTY FROM FIVE TO SEVEN MEMBERS, AND TO PROVIDE THAT FIVE OF THE MEMBERS MUST LIVE IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS, BUT ALL MEMBERS ARE TO BE ELECTED AT-LARGE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Section 1 of Chapter 205, Session Laws of 1977, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 1. (a) The Board of County Commissioners of Cabarrus County shall consist of ~~five~~ seven members ~~who shall serve for staggered terms of four years~~ elected as herein provided.

~~Beginning with the regular primary and general election for county officers to be held in 1978, there shall be nominated and elected five commissioners who shall be nominated and elected by the voters of the entire county. In the 1978 general election, the three candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of four years, and the two candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of two years.~~

(b) Cabarrus County is divided into four districts, as follows:

(1) District 1 shall consist of Township 1-Harrisburg, Township 2-Poplar Tent, and Township 3-Odell;

(2) District 2 shall consist of Township 4-Kannapolis east of the Southern Railroad main line, Township 5-New Gilead, and Township 6-Rimerton;

1           (3) District 3 shall consist of Township 7-Gold Hill, Township 8-Mt.  
2           Pleasant, Township 9-Georgeville, Township 10-Midland, and  
3           Township 11-Central Cabarrus; and

4           (4) District 4 shall consist of Township 12-Concord.

5           (5) District 5 shall consist of Township 4-Kannapolis west of the Southern  
6           Railroad main line.

7           As used in this subsection, township boundaries are those from the 1980 decennial  
8           federal census.

9           (c) One seat is apportioned to each district. Two seats are apportioned to the  
10          county at-large.

11          (d) Members shall reside in and represent the districts according to the  
12          apportionment plan adopted by this section, but the qualified voters of the entire county  
13          shall elect all the members of the board.

14          (e) In 1990 and quadrennially thereafter, one member shall be elected for each of  
15          Districts 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 for four-year terms. In 1992 and quadrennially thereafter, two  
16          members shall be elected from the county at-large.

17          Thereafter, as the terms of the members expire, their successors shall be elected for  
18          terms of four years."

19          Sec. 2. This act does not affect the terms of office of seats elected in 1986 or  
20          1988. Vacancies in such seats before the expiration of the term shall continue to be  
21          filled as was provided prior to the enactment of Section 1 of this act. The effective date  
22          of the increase in the size of the Board of Commissioners of Cabarrus County is the first  
23          Monday in December, 1990.

24          Sec. 3. (a) This act shall become effective only if approved by the qualified  
25          voters of Cabarrus County in a special election to be held on November 7, 1989. The  
26          election shall be conducted by the Cabarrus County Board of Elections in accordance  
27          with general law.

28          (b)The question in the ballot shall be:

29          "[ ] FOR expansion of Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners from  
30          five to seven members, with two members elected at-large, and five  
31          members to reside in and represent districts, but the voters of the entire  
32          county shall elect all seven members of the Board.

33          [ ] AGAINST expansion of Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners  
34          from five to seven members, with two members elected at-large, and  
35          five members to reside in and represent districts, but the voters of the  
36          entire county shall elect all seven members of the Board."

37          (c) If a majority of the qualified voters voting in the election vote for the  
38          question, Sections 1 and 2 of this act become effective. If a majority of the qualified  
39          voters voting in the election do not vote for the question, Sections 1 and 2 of this act do  
40          not become effective.

41          Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.