

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**

**SESSION 1995**

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**2**

HOUSE BILL 674  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/4/95

Short Title: Guilford Commissioners.

(Local)

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Sponsors:

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Referred to:

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March 30, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT TO REDUCE FROM ELEVEN TO SEVEN THE NUMBER OF GUILFORD  
2 COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND TO REDISTRIBUTE THE GUILFORD COUNTY  
3 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, SUBJECT TO A REFERENDUM.  
4

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 Section 1. (a) Effective on the first Monday in December in 1998, the Board of  
7 Commissioners of Guilford County consists of seven members. The members shall be  
8 elected on a partisan basis at the time of the regular county primary and general elections.  
9 One shall be elected from each of seven single-member districts established under  
10 subsection (e) of this section.

11 (b) In 1998 and every four years thereafter, members for Districts 3 and 4 shall be  
12 elected for four-year terms. In 1998 and every four years thereafter, members for  
13 Districts 1, 6, and 7 shall be elected to four-year terms. In 2000, the members from  
14 Districts 2 and 5 shall be elected to two-year terms, and in 2002 and every four years  
15 thereafter, successors shall be elected for four-year terms. Steve Arnold, who was elected  
16 in 1994 for a four-year term, is designated as the member from District 1 until the first  
17 Monday in December of 1996. Withers G. Dunovant, who was elected in 1994 for a  
18 four-year term, is designated as the member from District 2. Charles Winfree, who was  
19 elected in 1994 for a four-year term is designated as the member from District 5. Joe E.

1 Bostic, Jr., who was elected in 1994 for a four-year term, is designated as the member  
2 from District 6. Warren Dorsett, who was elected in 1994 for a four-year term, is  
3 designated as the member from District 7.

4 (c) The districts set out in subsection (e) of this section are devised and constituted  
5 to meet the requirements of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and other  
6 applicable constitutional provisions.

7 (d) The qualified voters of each district shall elect the member of the board for that  
8 district. Candidates must reside in the district for which they seek to be elected.

9 (e) The districts are as follows:

10 (1) District 1 consists of Greensboro Precinct 43; High Point Precincts 1, 2,  
11 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17A, 17B, 20A, 20B, 23, 24A, 24B; and Deep  
12 River, Oak Ridge, and Stokesdale Precincts.

13 (2) District 2 consists of Greensboro Precincts 6, 8A, 8B, 23, 26A, 29, 42A,  
14 and 42B; High Point Precincts 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 19, and 22; and  
15 Friendship 2 Precinct.

16 (3) District 3 consists of Greensboro Precincts 24A, 24B1, 24B2, 24C, 26B,  
17 36A, and 36B; High Point Precincts 13, 14, 18, and 21; Jamestown  
18 Precincts 1, 2A, 2B, and 3; and North Sumner, South Sumner 1, and  
19 South Sumner 2.

20 (4) District 4 consists of Greensboro Precincts 33A and 33B; Fentress  
21 Precincts 1A, 1B, 2A, and 2B; and Gibsonville, Greene, North Clay,  
22 South Clay, North Jefferson 1, North Jefferson 2, South Jefferson, North  
23 Madison, South Madison, North Washington, South Washington, South  
24 Monroe 1, South Monroe 2, and Whitsett Precincts.

25 (5) District 5 consists of Greensboro Precincts 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16A, 16B,  
26 17, 18, 28, 31, 35A, 35B, 35C, 40B, 41A, and 41B; and North Monroe,  
27 North Center Grove, and South Center Grove Precincts.

28 (6) District 6 consists of Greensboro Precincts 20, 21A, 21B, 22A, 22B,  
29 27A, 27B, 27C, 32, 34A, 34B, 37A, 37B, 38, 39A, 39B, 40A1, and  
30 40A2; Friendship Precincts 1A, 1B1, and 1B2, and North Bruce and  
31 South Bruce Precincts.

32 (7) District 7 consists of Greensboro Precincts 1A, 1B, 2, 3, 4, 5A, 5B, 7, 9,  
33 14A, 14B, 19, 25, 30, 44, and 45.

34 (f) Precincts as mentioned in subsection (e) of this section are the official  
35 precincts of Guilford County as of April 1, 1995.

36 Sec. 2. Sections 1 and 4 of this act become effective only if approved by the  
37 qualified voters of Guilford County in a referendum. The election shall be conducted by  
38 the Guilford County Board of Elections at the time set for the 1996 general election in  
39 Guilford County. The question on the ballot shall be:

40 **"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST**  
41 **REDUCING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**  
42 **FROM ELEVEN TO SEVEN MEMBERS,**  
43 **TO BE ELECTED FROM SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS".**

1           Sec. 3. If the majority of votes cast are cast FOR the question, then effective  
2 upon the certification of the results of the election, Section 1 of the act becomes effective  
3 for the next county primary and general election following the referendum.

4           Sec. 4. If the Attorney General of the United States interposes objection to this  
5 act under section 5 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, the Board of  
6 Commissioners of Guilford County shall enact an alternative plan for the election of the  
7 Board of Commissioners of Guilford County that:

8           (1) Provides for no more than seven commissioners; and

9           (2) Will meet the requirements of the Attorney General of the United States  
10 and shall submit that new plan to the Attorney General under section 5 of the Voting  
11 Rights Act of 1965, as amended.

12           Sec. 5. This act is effective upon ratification.