

House Bill 944 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Alexander of the 66th, Beasley-Teague of the 65th, Jones of the 62nd, and Bruce of the 61st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a board of elections and registration for Douglas County, approved
2 May 13, 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3880), so as to provide for composition of the board and the
3 selection and appointment of members; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting
4 laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 SECTION 1.

7 An Act creating a board of elections and registration for Douglas County, approved May 13,
8 2008 (Ga. L. 2008, p. 3880), is amended by revising Section 3 as follows:

9 "SECTION 3.

10 (a) The board shall be composed of five members, each of whom shall be an elector and
11 resident of the county and who shall be appointed as provided in this section.

12 (b) The board shall be reconstituted effective January 1, 2015, as provided for in
13 subsections (c) and (d) of this section; until such date, those members of the board serving
14 on January 1, 2014, shall continue to serve. The appointments for members who shall take
15 office on January 1, 2015, shall occur in accordance with subsection (e) of this section.

16 (c) Two members of the board shall be appointed by the chairperson of the county
17 executive committee of the political party which received the highest number of votes
18 within this state for members of the General Assembly at the last general election
19 immediately preceding the appointment of such members. Two members of the board shall
20 be appointed by the chairperson of the county executive committee of the political party
21 which received the next highest number of votes within this state for members of the
22 General Assembly at the general election immediately preceding the appointment of such
23 members. In the event that a political party entitled to appoint a member of the board does
24 not have a county executive committee, such appointment shall be made by the state

25 executive committee of such political party. One member shall be appointed by the
26 governing authority of Douglas County.

27 (d) One of the initial members appointed by the chairpersons of the county executive
28 committees of the political parties shall serve for a term of two years and the other initial
29 member appointed by such chairpersons shall serve for a term of four years. The initial
30 member appointed by the governing authority of Douglas County shall serve for a term of
31 four years. Thereafter, all members of the board shall be appointed for terms of four years
32 and until their successors are appointed and qualified.

33 (e) The appointment of each member shall be made by the respective appointing authority
34 filing an affidavit with the clerk of the Superior Court of Douglas County no later than 30
35 days preceding the date on which such member is to take office stating the name and
36 residential address of the person appointed and certifying that such member has been duly
37 appointed as provided in this Act. The clerk of the superior court shall record each such
38 certification on the minutes of the court and shall certify the name of each member to the
39 Secretary of State and shall provide for the issuance of appropriate commissions to the
40 members within the same time and in the same manner as provided by law for registrars.

41 (f) Each member of the board shall be eligible to succeed himself or herself for one term
42 following the completion of one four-year term, not including any time served under an
43 interim appointment pursuant to subsection (g) of this section. Each member of the board
44 shall have the right to resign at any time by giving written notice of his or her resignation
45 to the respective appointing authority and to the clerk of the superior court. Each member
46 of the board shall be subject to removal from the board at any time for cause, after notice
47 and a hearing, in the same manner and by the same authority as provided for removal of
48 registrars.

49 (g) In the event that a vacancy occurs in the office of any member before the expiration
50 of his or her term by removal, death, resignation, or otherwise, the respective appointing
51 authority shall appoint a successor to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. The clerk
52 of the superior court shall be notified of interim appointments and record and certify such
53 appointments in the same manner as the regular appointment of members.

54 (h) Before entering upon his or her duties, each member shall take substantially the same
55 oath as required by law for registrars and shall have the same privileges from arrest."

56 **SECTION 2.**

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