

House Bill 966 (AS PASSED HOUSE AND SENATE)

By: Representatives Westbrook of the 163rd, Jackson of the 165th, Gilliard of the 162nd, Stephens of the 164th, and Hitchens of the 161st

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend an Act creating a new charter for the City of Garden City, approved April 17, 1973
2 (Ga. L. 1973, p. 3581), as amended, particularly by an Act approved May 6, 2024 (Ga. L.
3 2024, p. 4332), so as to provide for the mayor to fill any vacancy in the office of mayor pro
4 tempore; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

6 style="text-align:center">**SECTION 1.**

7 An Act creating a new charter for the City of Garden City, approved April 17, 1973
8 (Ga. L. 1973, p. 3581), as amended, is amended by revising subsection (b) of Section 2.03
9 as follows:

10 "(b) Commencing with the general election on the Tuesday following the first Monday in
11 November, 2011, the city shall elect a mayor at large for a term of four years. After each
12 regular election, the city council shall meet for organization at its first regular meeting next
13 following the meeting where the oath of office has been administered. If the mayor has
14 been elected at the recent election, he or she shall appoint one of the other councilpersons
15 to serve as mayor pro tempore for a four-year term and until his or her successor is elected
16 and qualified. The mayor shall fill any vacancy in the mayor pro tempore's office. The

17 mayor pro tempore shall act as mayor during any absence or disability of the mayor but
18 shall only vote once on matters before the council and, if a vacancy occurs in the office of
19 mayor, shall become mayor for the remainder of the unexpired term. The city council shall
20 also, by majority vote of all the members, elect one of their number, other than the mayor
21 or mayor pro tempore, to be president of council who shall temporarily assume the mayor's
22 position in the event that the mayor and mayor pro tempore are both unavailable, but who
23 shall not, by virtue of being president of council, become mayor in the event that any
24 vacancy occurs in such office. The president of council shall serve for a term of two years
25 and until his or her successor is elected and qualified. If the president of council leaves
26 office before his or her term has expired, he or she shall be replaced by a majority vote of
27 city council at any regular meeting of city council."

28

SECTION 2.

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