**A** **BILL**

TO CHANGE THE METHOD OF ELECTING THE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE SUMMERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT 2 BOARD OF TRUSTEES FROM AT LARGE TO SINGLE‑MEMBER DISTRICTS; TO DESIGNATE A MAP NUMBER ON WHICH THESE SINGLE‑MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS ARE DELINEATED; AND TO PROVIDE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION FOR THE NEWLY DRAWN ELECTION DISTRICTS.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. (A)(1) Notwithstanding another provision of law, including Section 1 of Act 445 of 2000, beginning with the 2022 school trustee elections, the seven members of the Summerville School District 2 Board of Trustees must be elected in nonpartisan elections to be conducted at the same time as the general election and every four years thereafter, except as may be provided to stagger the members’ terms. The members must be elected by the qualified electors of the school district from one of the seven defined single‑member districts as delineated on the Summerville School District 2 map S‑35‑02‑21 as maintained by the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office. A candidate for a numbered district seat must reside in the numbered single‑member district for which the candidate filed for election. Members must be elected by the qualified electors of the specifically numbered district of Summerville School District 2.

(2) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the seven incumbent members of the Summerville School District 2 Board of Trustees holding office on the effective date of this act shall serve until their successors are elected in the 2022 school trustee elections and qualify. The seven incumbent members of the Summerville School District 2 Board of Trustees holding office on the effective date of this act may seek election to the Summerville School District 2 Board of Trustees in the 2022 school district elections.

(3) The four members elected in the 2022 school district elections from election districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 shall serve four‑year terms and until their successors are elected in the 2026 school district elections and qualify. The three members elected in the 2022 school district elections from election districts 2, 4, and 6 shall serve two‑year terms and until their successors are elected in the 2024 school district elections and qualify.

(4) In the event of a vacancy on the board occurring for any reason other than the expiration of a term, the vacancy must be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term through appointment by the Dorchester County Legislative Delegation.

(B) The demographic information shown on the Summerville School District 2 map is as follows:

District Pop Dev. %Dev. NH\_WHT %NH\_WHT NH\_BLK %NH\_BLK

1 16,187 ‑851 ‑4.99% 11,465 70.83% 3,529 21.80%

2 17,612 574 3.37% 9,237 52.45% 6,088 34.57%

3 16,843 ‑195 ‑1.14% 12,904 76.61% 2,723 16.17%

4 16,811 ‑227 ‑1.33% 11,094 65.99% 4,360 25.94%

5 17,059 21 0.12% 12,521 73.40% 3,467 20.32%

6 17,422 384 2.25% 11,216 64.38% 4,065 23.33%

7 17,332 294 1.73% 12,661 73.05% 3,531 20.37%

Total 119,266 81,098 27,763

District VAP NHWVAP %NHWVAP NHBVAP %NHBVAP AllOth AllOthVAP

1 11,602 8,742 75.35% 2,139 18.44% 1,193 721

2 12,639 7,202 56.98% 3,888 30.76% 2,287 1,549

3 11,837 9,375 79.20% 1,748 14.77% 1,216 714

4 12,372 8,568 69.25% 2,926 23.65% 1,357 878

5 12,305 9,275 75.38% 2,372 19.28% 1,071 658

6 12,039 8,127 67.51% 2,581 21.44% 2,141 1,331

7 13,084 9,899 75.66% 2,440 18.65% 1,140 745

Total 85,878 61,188 18,094 10,405 6,596

SECTION 2. Notwithstanding another provision of law, all persons desiring to qualify as a candidate for the Summerville School District 2 Board of Trustees shall file a written notice of candidacy with the Dorchester County Board of Voter Registration and Elections on forms furnished by the board. The filing period shall open at 12:00 p.m. on August first or, if August first falls on Saturday or Sunday, then 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday and shall run until 12:00 p.m. on August fifteenth or, if August fifteenth falls on Saturday or Sunday, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday. This notice of candidacy must be a sworn statement and shall include the candidate’s name, age, address, election district in which the candidate resides and from which he seeks election, voting precinct, period of residence in the county, and other information that the board requires. The Dorchester County Board of Voter Registration and Elections shall conduct and supervise the elections for members of the board in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The commissioners shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The commission shall publish notices of the elections pursuant to Section 7‑13‑35. The results of the elections must be determined by the nonpartisan plurality method contained in Section 5‑15‑61. The members of the board elected in these nonpartisan elections shall take office one week following certification of their election pursuant to Section 59‑19‑315.

SECTION 3. Notwithstanding another provision of law, the map referenced in this act only establishes the boundaries of the seven defined single‑member election districts that constitute Summerville School District 2. It does not alter the exterior boundaries of Summerville School District 2. The official map must not be changed except by an act of the General Assembly or by a court of competent jurisdiction.

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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