

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2007

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SENATE BILL 1840\*

Short Title: Durham Ward Boundaries. (Local)

Sponsors: Senators McKissick; and Atwater.

Referred to: Finance.

May 22, 2008

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO PROVIDE PROCEDURES FOR THE CITY OF DURHAM TO REVISE  
ELECTION WARD BOUNDARIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 4 of the Charter of the City of Durham, being Chapter 671 of the 1975 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance 12281 of the City of Durham, adopted May 7, 2001, under G.S. 160A-104 and G.S. 160A-106, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 4. Election Wards.–

(a) The territory located within the corporate limits of the City shall continue to be divided into three numbered election wards, which shall be shown on the map showing the city limits maintained by the city clerk pursuant to the provisions of general law. ~~A written description or map showing the current boundaries of the respective three election wards shall be maintained in the office of the City Clerk, and shall be available for public inspection.~~

(b) Such ward boundaries may be amended periodically pursuant to the provisions of ~~General Law~~. general law.

~~Whenever areas are hereafter annexed and made a part of the City, the City Council shall by ordinance redefine and rearrange the three election wards so as to include such annexed areas. Such ordinance shall be adopted at least seven days prior to the opening of the registration books for the municipal election next succeeding the date of any annexation and shall provide for three election wards of approximately equal population. In redefining and rearranging the election ward lines, the City Council shall follow as nearly as practical, existing ward lines.~~

(c) Within six months of the release of official United States decennial census figures (but not later than seven calendar days before the opening of filing under G.S. 163-294.2 for the next regular municipal election after release of the figures), the city council shall by ordinance, using such figures and taking into account the election ward boundaries in existence at the time, revise the three election wards so that they are of approximately equal population, as determined in the discretion of the city council.

1       (d)   The council shall allocate to the election wards, or by ordinance provide  
2 procedures for the city manager to allocate to the election wards, areas that are annexed  
3 to the city after the ordinance adopted pursuant to subsection (c) of this section and such  
4 allocation shall be made before the effective date of each annexation.

5       (e)   This section is supplementary to the provisions of general law. In case of  
6 conflict or inconsistency, this section controls.

7           **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law.