

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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SENATE BILL 876
State and Local Government Committee Substitute Adopted 5/19/26
House Committee Substitute Favorable 6/9/26
House Committee Substitute #2 Favorable 6/16/26
Fifth Edition Engrossed 6/16/26

Short Title: Various Local Provisions X.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 29, 2026

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO MAKE VARIOUS CHANGES TO LOCAL LAWS IN NORTH CAROLINA.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

PART I. ROWAN COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS VACANCIES

SECTION 1.(a) G.S. 153A-27.1(h) reads as rewritten:

"(h) This section shall apply only in the following counties: Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Avery, Beaufort, Brunswick, Buncombe, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Carteret, Caswell, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Cumberland, Dare, Davidson, Davie, Forsyth, Graham, Guilford, Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Hyde, Jackson, Lee, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Moore, Onslow, Pender, Polk, Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Sampson, Stanly, Stokes, Transylvania, and Yancey."

SECTION 1.(b) This section applies to Rowan County only.

SECTION 1.(c) This section is effective when it becomes law and applies to vacancies filled on or after that date.

PART II. KANNAPOLIS ETJ RELINQUISHMENT

SECTION 2.(a) G.S. 160D-202(h) reads as rewritten:

"(h) Relinquishment of Jurisdiction. – When a city relinquishes jurisdiction over an area that it is regulating under this Chapter to a county, the city development regulations and powers of enforcement shall remain in effect until (i) the county has adopted such development regulation or (ii) a period of ~~60~~90 days has elapsed following the action by which the city relinquished jurisdiction, whichever is sooner. Prior to the transfer of jurisdiction, the county may hold hearings and take other measures consistent with G.S. 160D-204 that may be required in order to adopt and apply its development regulations for the area at the same time it assumes jurisdiction."

SECTION 2.(b) G.S. 160D-601(d) shall not apply to the adoption of development regulations by the County of Rowan establishing jurisdiction over an area after relinquishment of jurisdiction by the City of Kannapolis over that area in accordance with G.S. 160D-202, as amended by this act.

SECTION 2.(c) This Part applies only to Rowan County.

SECTION 2.(d) This section is effective when it becomes law and expires October 1, 2026.



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2 **PART III. CITY OF ALBEMARLE – PARTISAN ELECTIONS**

3 **SECTION 3.(a)** Section 3.1 of the Charter of the City of Albemarle, being Chapter
4 259 of the 1979 Session Laws, as amended by S.L. 2015-253 and Ordinance 19-35 adopted on
5 October 7, 2019, reads as rewritten:

6 "Section 3.1. Regular Municipal Elections; Conduct and Method of Election. ~~Elections~~ (a)
7 Regular municipal elections shall be held at the time of the general election in each
8 even-numbered year. Except as otherwise provided, the election shall be held and conducted in
9 accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of North Carolina. The Mayor and members
10 of the City Council shall be elected according to the nonpartisan plurality method as provided in
11 G.S. 163-292 on a partisan basis. The primary and election shall be held and conducted in
12 accordance with the general laws governing primaries and elections for county officers.

13 (b) Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with
14 the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, except
15 that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county board of elections shall be in
16 accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

17 **SECTION 3.(b)** Section 2.2 of the Charter of the City of Albemarle, being Chapter
18 259 of the 1979 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 881 of the 1987 Session Laws and
19 Ordinance 95-18 adopted on May 1, 1995, reads as rewritten:

20 "Section 2.2. Council; Composition; Terms of ~~Office~~ Office; Vacancies. (a) The City
21 Council shall be composed of seven members, chosen as follows:

22 (1) ~~three~~ Three shall be nominated and elected by and from the qualified voters
23 of the ~~City for terms of four years; and~~ City.

24 (2) ~~four~~ Four shall be nominated and elected by and from the qualified voters of
25 the districts, one each from the four electoral districts established under
26 Section 3.3 of this Charter, in the manner provided by Article III of this
27 Charter. For the district seats, no person shall be eligible to file for, be elected
28 to, or serve on the City Council unless the person is a qualified voter and
29 resident of the electoral district from which the candidate seeks to be elected,
30 and candidates shall be voted on by the voters residing in the electoral district
31 from which that candidate seeks election.

32 (b) Members of the City Council shall be elected for staggered four-year terms.

33 (c) Vacancies in the City Council shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term
34 by appointment by the remaining members of the City Council. Notwithstanding G.S. 160A-63,
35 if the vacating official was elected as the nominee of a political party, then the individual
36 recommended by the county executive committee of that political party shall be appointed if the
37 county executive committee makes a recommendation within 30 days of the occurrence of the
38 vacancy and does either of the following, as applicable:

39 (1) ~~In the event of~~ For vacancies in the ~~council~~ City Council from a district seat,
40 ~~the person appointed as a successor under G.S. 160A-63 must be restricts~~
41 voting to committee members who reside within the electoral district of the
42 vacating member and recommends a person who is a resident of the electoral
43 district.

44 (2) For vacancies in the City Council from an at-large seat, restricts voting to
45 committee members who reside within the corporate limits of the City."

46 **SECTION 3.(c)** Section 2.3 of the Charter of the City of Albemarle, being Chapter
47 259 of the 1979 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance 95-18 adopted on May 1, 1995, reads
48 as rewritten:

49 "Section 2.3. Mayor; Term of Office; ~~Duties~~ Duties; Vacancies. (a) The Mayor shall be
50 elected by and from the qualified voters of the City in the manner provided by Article III of this
51 Charter to serve for a term of ~~two~~ four years, or until his successor is elected and qualified. The

1 Mayor shall be the official head of the City government and shall preside at all meetings of the
2 Council. The Mayor shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as presently are or
3 hereafter may be conferred upon him by the General Statutes of North Carolina, by this Charter,
4 and by the ordinances of the City.

5 (b) Vacancies in the office of the Mayor shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired
6 term by appointment of the City Council. Notwithstanding G.S. 160A-63, if the Mayor was
7 elected as the nominee of a political party, then the individual recommended by the county
8 executive committee of that political party shall be appointed if the county executive committee
9 makes a recommendation within 30 days of the occurrence of the vacancy and restricts voting to
10 committee members who reside within the corporate limits of the City."

11 **SECTION 3.(d)** Section 3.2 of the Charter of the City of Albemarle, being Chapter
12 259 of the 1979 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 881 of the 1987 Session Laws and S.L.
13 2015-253, is repealed.

14 **SECTION 3.(e)** This section shall not affect the filling of a vacancy that occurs for
15 the officers in the City of Albemarle for a seat elected prior to the effective date of this section.

16 **SECTION 3.(f)** Subsections (a) and (e) of this section become effective at the time
17 of the organizational meeting held in accordance with G.S. 160A-68 in December 2028. In order
18 to implement subsections (a) and (e) of this section, the 2028 elections shall be conducted as if
19 the provisions of this section were already in effect.

20 21 **PART IV. MOORE COUNTY MUNICIPALITIES – PARTISAN EVEN-NUMBERED** 22 **YEAR ELECTIONS**

23 24 **TOWN OF ABERDEEN**

25 **SECTION 4.1.(a)** Article IV of the Charter of the Town of Aberdeen, being Chapter
26 147 of the 1975 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 220 of the 1995 Session Laws and by
27 Ordinance E2018134, adopted on April 23, 2018, reads as rewritten:

28 "ARTICLE IV. ELECTIONS.

29 "Sec. 4.1. Regular Municipal Elections. The municipal elections shall be held and conducted
30 by the Moore County Board of Elections. The regular municipal elections shall be ~~nonpartisan~~
31 ~~and decided by simple plurality. The regular elections for municipal offices shall be on Tuesday~~
32 ~~after the first Monday in November in 1975 and every two years thereafter. The held at the time~~
33 ~~of the general election in each even-numbered year. The Mayor and the members of the Board~~
34 ~~of Commissioners shall be elected on a partisan basis. The primary and election shall be held and~~
35 ~~conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and elections for county~~
36 ~~officers. Except as otherwise provided, elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with~~
37 ~~the applicable provisions of Articles 23 and 24 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North~~
38 ~~Carolina. Beginning in the regular election to be held in November, 1975, the three candidates~~
39 ~~for Commissioner receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of four years,~~
40 ~~and the two candidates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected for terms of~~
41 ~~two years. Thereafter, as their terms expire, their successors shall be elected for terms of four~~
42 ~~years. Beginning in November of 2019, the office of mayor shall be elected for a term of two~~
43 ~~years, and thereafter, starting in the election of November 2021 the mayor shall be elected for a~~
44 ~~term of four years.~~

45 ...

46 "Sec. 4.3. Unaffiliated Candidates. Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
47 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
48 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
49 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

1 **SECTION 4.1.(b)** Section 3.3 of the Charter of the Town of Aberdeen, being Chapter
2 147 of the 1975 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance E2018134, adopted on April 23, 2018,
3 reads as rewritten:

4 "~~Sec. 3.4-3.3. Terms; Qualifications; Vacancies.~~Qualifications.

5 (a) The members of the Board of Commissioners shall serve for staggered terms of four
6 years. The Mayor shall serve for a term of four years as set forth in Article IV, Section 4.1. Their
7 terms shall begin on the day and hour of the organizational meeting in December, following their
8 election and they shall serve until their successors are elected and qualify.

9 (b) No person shall be eligible to be a candidate or be elected as Mayor or as a member
10 of the Board of Commissioners or to serve in such capacity, unless he is a resident and a qualified
11 voter of the Town.

12 ~~(c) In the event a vacancy occurs in the office of Mayor or Commissioner, the Board shall~~
13 ~~by majority vote appoint some qualified person to fill the same for the remainder of the unexpired~~
14 ~~term."~~

15 **SECTION 4.1.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
16 Aberdeen in 2027. The terms of office for the three commissioners serving on the effective date
17 of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The terms of
18 office for the mayor and two commissioners serving on the effective date of this section whose
19 terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the
20 Town of Aberdeen shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
21 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

22 23 **TOWN OF CAMERON**

24 **SECTION 4.2.(a)** Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Cameron, being Chapter
25 14 of the Private Laws of 1876, reads as rewritten:

26 "~~Sec. 4. There shall be an election-~~(a) Regular municipal elections shall be held for officers
27 mentioned in this act on the first Monday in May, one thousand eight hundred and seventy seven,
28 and each succeeding year thereafter, under the same restrictions that county and State elections
29 are held; and all citizens within said incorporation, who have resided twelve months within the
30 State and thirty days within the corporate limits, previous to the day of the election, shall be
31 entitled to vote at said elections at the time of the general election in each even-numbered year.
32 The mayor and the commissioners shall be elected on a partisan basis. The primary and election
33 shall be held and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and
34 elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided, elections shall be held and conducted
35 in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

36 (b) Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with
37 the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, except
38 that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county board of elections shall be in
39 accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

40 **SECTION 4.2.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
41 Cameron in 2027. The terms of office for the three commissioners serving on the effective date
42 of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The terms of
43 office for the mayor and the two commissioners serving on the effective date of this section
44 whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections
45 in the Town of Cameron shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
46 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

47 48 **TOWN OF CARTHAGE**

49 **SECTION 4.3.(a)** Article III of the Charter of the Town of Carthage, being S.L.
50 1999-239, reads as rewritten:

51 "ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS.

1 "Section 3.1. **Regular Municipal Elections.** Regular municipal elections shall be held at
2 the time of the general election in each odd-numbered year in accordance with the uniform
3 municipal election laws of North Carolina. ~~even-numbered year.~~ Elections shall be conducted on
4 a ~~nonpartisan basis and the results determined using the nonpartisan plurality method as provided~~
5 in G.S. 163-292. ~~partisan basis.~~ The primary and election shall be held and conducted in
6 accordance with the general laws governing primaries and elections for county officers. ~~Except~~
7 as otherwise provided, elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with the uniform
8 municipal election laws of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

9 "Section 3.2. **Election of Mayor.** A Mayor shall be elected in the regular municipal election
10 ~~in 1999 and each four years thereafter.~~

11 "Section 3.3. **Election of Council Members.** ~~In the regular municipal election in 1997, the~~
12 ~~three candidates for Council member who received the highest numbers of votes shall be elected~~
13 ~~for four-year terms, while the two candidates who receive the next highest numbers of votes shall~~
14 ~~be elected for two-year terms. In the regular municipal election in 1999, and in each regular~~
15 ~~municipal election thereafter, persons shall be elected to serve four-year terms in those positions~~
16 ~~whose terms are then expiring.~~

17 "Section 3.4. **Special Elections and Referenda.** Special elections and referenda may be held
18 only as provided by general law or applicable local acts of the General Assembly.

19 "Section 3.5. **Unaffiliated Candidates.** Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
20 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
21 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
22 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

23 **SECTION 4.3.(b)** Section 2.7 of Article II of the Charter of the Town of Carthage,
24 being S.L. 1999-239, reads as rewritten:

25 "Section 2.7. **Compensation; Qualifications for Office; Vacancies. Office.** The
26 compensation and qualifications of the Mayor and Council members shall be in accordance with
27 general law. ~~Vacancies that occur in any elective office of the Town shall be filled by majority~~
28 ~~vote of the remaining members of the Council."~~

29 **SECTION 4.3.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
30 Carthage in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and the two council members serving on the
31 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.
32 The terms of office for the three council members serving on the effective date of this section
33 whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections
34 in the Town of Carthage shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
35 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

36 37 TOWN OF PINEBLUFF

38 **SECTION 4.4.(a)** Article III of the Charter of the Town of Pinebluff, being Chapter
39 243 of the 1979 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance 1987-3-19, adopted on March 19, 1987,
40 and by Ordinance 2016-01, adopted on June 16, 2016, reads as rewritten:

41 "ARTICLE III. ELECTIONS.

42 "Section 3.1. Regular Municipal Elections; Conduct and Method of Election. Regular
43 municipal elections shall be held in the Town ~~every two (2) years in odd-numbered years and~~
44 ~~shall be conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of North Carolina.~~ at
45 the time of the general election in each even-numbered year. The Mayor and members of the
46 Board of Commissioners shall be elected ~~according to the nonpartisan plurality method of~~
47 ~~election, as provided in G.S. 163-292.~~ on a partisan basis. The primary and election shall be held
48 and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and elections for county
49 officers. Except as otherwise provided, elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with
50 the uniform municipal election laws of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

1 "Section 3.2. Election of the Board of Commissioners; Election of Mayor. ~~At the regular~~
2 ~~municipal election in 2017, the Mayor and the two (2) Commissioners receiving the highest~~
3 ~~number of votes cast shall be elected to four (4) year terms expiring in 2021. The three (3)~~
4 ~~Commissioners receiving the next highest number of votes cast in the 2017 regular municipal~~
5 ~~election shall be elected to two (2) year terms, expiring in 2019, at which time the seats held by~~
6 ~~said Commissioners shall be subject to election to four (4) year terms at the regular municipal~~
7 ~~election 2019. Thereafter, all terms of office for the Commissioners and Mayor shall be four (4)~~
8 ~~years.~~The Mayor shall be elected to serve a four-year term. The Commissioners shall be elected
9 to serve staggered four-year terms.

10 "Section 3.3. Unaffiliated Candidates. Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
11 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
12 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
13 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

14 **SECTION 4.4.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
15 Pinebluff in 2027. The terms of office for the three commissioners serving on the effective date
16 of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The terms of
17 office for the mayor and the two commissioners serving on the effective date of this section
18 whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections
19 in the Town of Pinebluff shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
20 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

21 TOWN OF ROBBINS

22 **SECTION 4.5.(a)** Section 3 of the Charter of the Town of Robbins, being Chapter
23 63 of the Private Laws of 1935, as amended by the Order approved by the Municipal Board of
24 Control on April 1, 1943, and by Chapter 230 of the 1979 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

25 "The officers of the Town of Robbins shall consist of a mayor and five commissioners to be
26 elected ~~by the qualified voters of said Town at the time prescribed by law for the election of~~
27 ~~municipal officers. At the next election for municipal officers, there shall be elected a mayor,~~
28 ~~who shall serve for a term of four years, and five commissioners. The two individuals seeking~~
29 ~~the office of commissioner who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected for a term~~
30 ~~of four years; the three individuals receiving the next highest number of votes shall be elected~~
31 ~~for a term of two years. Thereafter, each commissioner shall be elected for a term of four years.~~on
32 a partisan basis to serve staggered terms of four years. Regular municipal elections shall be held
33 at the time of the general election in each even-numbered year. The primary and election shall
34 be held and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and elections for
35 county officers. Except as otherwise provided, the election shall be conducted in accordance with
36 the uniform municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

37 Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with the
38 requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, except that
39 the date and time petitions must be filed with the county board of elections shall be in accordance
40 with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

41 **SECTION 4.5.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Robbins
42 in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and two commissioners serving on the effective date
43 of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The terms of
44 office for the three commissioners serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are
45 set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the Town of
46 Robbins shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of
47 terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

48 TOWN OF SOUTHERN PINES

1 **SECTION 4.6.(a)** Article III of the Charter of the Town of Southern Pines, being
2 Chapter 352 of the 1981 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance SP05.502 adopted on
3 September 12, 1989, reads as rewritten:

4 "ARTICLE III.

5 "ELECTIONS.

6 "Sec. 3.1. Regular Municipal Elections; Conduct and Method of Election.–Regular municipal
7 elections shall be held in the Town ~~every two years in odd-numbered years and shall be conducted~~
8 ~~in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. at the time of the general election in each~~
9 ~~even-numbered year.~~ Members of the Town Council and the mayor shall be elected according to
10 ~~the nonpartisan primary and election method of elections, and the results determined in~~
11 ~~accordance with G.S. 163-294. That the Mayor of the Town of Southern Pines shall be elected~~
12 ~~according to the Non Partisan Primary and Election Method of Elections, and the results~~
13 ~~determined in accordance with the General Statutes of North Carolina Section 163-294. on a~~
14 ~~partisan basis. The primary and election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the~~
15 ~~general laws governing primaries and elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided,~~
16 ~~elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of~~
17 Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

18 "Sec. 3.2. Election of the Town Council. ~~At the regular municipal elections in 1991 and~~
19 ~~biennially thereafter, there shall be elected four members of the Town Council to fill the seats of~~
20 ~~those officers whose terms are then expiring.~~

21 "Sec. 3.3. Unaffiliated Candidates. Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
22 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
23 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
24 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

25 **SECTION 4.6.(b)** Section 2.2 of the Charter of the Town of Southern Pines, being
26 Chapter 352 of the 1981 Session Laws, as amended by Ordinance SP05.502 adopted on
27 September 12, 1989, and by Ordinance 987 adopted on June 10, 2003, reads as rewritten:

28 "Sec. 2.2. Town Council; Composition; Term of Office. – The Town Council shall consist of
29 four council members and a mayor, who shall be elected at large by and from the qualified voters
30 of the Town ~~for terms of four years, except as provided below. To implement four-year staggered~~
31 ~~terms for the members of the Town Council, at the regular municipal election to be held in 2003~~
32 ~~the two candidates for council member who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected~~
33 ~~for four-year terms, while the two candidates for council member who receive the next highest~~
34 ~~number of votes shall be elected for two-year terms. At the regular municipal election to be held~~
35 ~~in 2005, and every two years thereafter, persons shall be elected to serve four-year terms in those~~
36 ~~positions whose terms are then expiring. Town. The mayor shall be elected to serve a four-year~~
37 ~~term and council members shall be elected to serve staggered four-year terms."~~

38 **SECTION 4.6.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
39 Southern Pines in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and the two town council members
40 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be
41 extended by one year. The terms of office for the two town council members serving on the
42 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year.
43 Regular municipal elections in the Town of Southern Pines shall resume in even-numbered years
44 beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in
45 odd-numbered years.

46 **TOWN OF TAYLORTOWN**

47 **SECTION 4.7.(a)** Chapter IV of the Charter of the Town of Taylortown, being
48 Section 2 of Chapter 601 of the 1987 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

49 "Chapter IV.

50 "Elections.
51

1 "Sec. 4.1 Conduct of Town Elections. The Town Council shall be elected ~~on a nonpartisan~~
2 ~~basis and the results determined by the plurality method as provided by G.S. 163-292 at the time~~
3 of the general election in each even-numbered year on a partisan basis. The primary and election
4 shall be held and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and
5 elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided, the election shall be conducted in
6 accordance with the uniform municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

7 "Sec. 4.2 Unaffiliated Candidates. Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
8 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
9 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
10 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

11 **SECTION 4.7.(b)** Section 3.5 of Chapter III of the Charter of the Town of
12 Taylortown, being Section 2 of Chapter 601 of the 1987 Session Laws, is repealed.

13 **SECTION 4.7.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of
14 Taylortown in 2027. The terms of office for the five members of the Town Council serving on
15 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one
16 year. Regular municipal elections in the Town of Taylortown shall resume in even-numbered
17 years beginning in 2028.

18 **TOWN OF VASS**

19 **SECTION 4.8.(a)** Section 6 of the Charter of the Town of Vass, being Chapter 407
20 of the 1907 Private Laws, as amended by Chapter 817 of the 1953 Session Laws, and by
21 Ordinance 1988-11, adopted on November 9, 1998, is repealed.

22 **SECTION 4.8.(b)** The Charter of the Town of Vass, being Chapter 407 of the 1907
23 Private Laws, as amended by Chapter 817 of the 1953 Session Laws, Chapter 226 of the 1957
24 Session Laws, and by Ordinance 1988-11, adopted on November 9, 1998, is amended by adding
25 a new section to read:

26 "Sec. 6.1. Regular municipal elections shall be held at the time of the general election in each
27 even-numbered year. Town officers shall be elected on a partisan basis. The primary and election
28 shall be held and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and
29 elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided, elections shall be held and conducted
30 in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.
31 Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with the
32 requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, except that
33 the date and time petitions must be filed with the county board of elections shall be in accordance
34 with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

35 **SECTION 4.8.(c)** Section 3 of the Charter of the Town of Vass, being Chapter 407
36 of the 1907 Private Laws, as amended by Chapter 226 of the 1957 Session Laws, reads as
37 rewritten:

38 ~~"Sec. 3. That the officers of said corporation shall consist of a mayor, three commissioners,~~
39 ~~town constable and such other officers as the town commissioners may elect for the better~~
40 ~~government of said town; and the following named persons shall fill the offices of mayor and~~
41 ~~commissioners from their qualifications until the first Monday in May, one thousand nine~~
42 ~~hundred and seven, and until their successors be elected and qualified, viz.: Mayor, Alex.~~
43 ~~Gunthur; Commissioners, J. A. Leslie, T. J. Smith and W. B. Graham. The Mayor and~~
44 ~~Commissioners shall take office at the first regular board meeting following the election. The~~
45 ~~governing body shall consist of a Mayor and five Commissioners. The Mayor shall serve for a~~
46 ~~term of two years. The Commissioners shall serve for staggered four-year terms."~~
47

48 **SECTION 4.8.(d)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Vass
49 in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and the three commissioners serving on the effective
50 date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The
51 terms of office for the two commissioners serving on the effective date of this section whose

1 terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the
2 Town of Vass shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering
3 of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.
4

5 VILLAGE OF FOXFIRE VILLAGE

6 **SECTION 4.9.(a)** Article IV of the Charter of Foxfire Village, being Chapter 237 of
7 the 1977 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

8 "ARTICLE IV.

9 "ELECTIONS.

10 "Sec. 4.1. Conduct of Village Elections. ~~The Village elections shall be non-partisan and the~~
11 ~~results determined by a plurality of the votes cast, as provided by G.S. 163-292. The regular~~
12 ~~municipal election shall be held as provided in G.S. 163-279(a)(1) and the applicable provisions~~
13 ~~of Articles 23 and 24 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.~~ Municipal elections shall be held at
14 the time of the general election in each even-numbered year. Village officers shall be elected on
15 a partisan basis. The primary and election shall be held and conducted in accordance with the
16 general laws governing primaries and elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided,
17 elections shall be held and conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws of
18 Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

19 ...

20 "Sec. 4.3. Unaffiliated Candidates. Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for
21 municipal office shall comply with the requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General
22 Statutes of North Carolina, except that the date and time petitions must be filed with the county
23 board of elections shall be in accordance with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

24 **SECTION 4.9.(b)** Article III of the Charter of Foxfire Village, being Chapter 237 of
25 the 1977 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

26 "ARTICLE III.

27 "GOVERNING BODY.

28 "Sec. 3.1. Temporary Officers. ~~Until the regular municipal election to be held in November~~
29 ~~1977, Robert M. Cooper, George Anderson, Ralph Olmstead, Katie McWilliams, and Joseph N.~~
30 ~~Donovan are hereby appointed to act as the council of Foxfire Village, and they shall possess and~~
31 ~~may exercise the powers granted to the Village Council until their successors are elected and~~
32 ~~qualify. They shall appoint one member as mayor.~~

33 "Sec. 3.2. Structure of Governing Body, Number of Members. The governing body of Foxfire
34 Village is the Village Council, which has five members.

35 "Sec. 3.3. Manner of Election of Council. The qualified voters of the entire Village shall elect
36 the members of the Council. The municipal election shall be held and conducted by the County
37 Board of Elections.

38 "Sec. 3.4. Term of Office of the Members of the Council. ~~(a) Except for the temporary~~
39 ~~officers provided for in Section 3.1 of this Charter, and except as provided in Subsection (b), of~~
40 ~~this Section of the Charter, the~~ The members of the Village Council shall be elected for staggered
41 four-year terms.

42 ~~(b) At the regular municipal election in 1977, the three persons receiving the highest~~
43 ~~number of votes for seats on the Council shall be elected to four year terms; the two persons~~
44 ~~receiving the next highest number of votes for seats on the Council shall be elected to two year~~
45 ~~terms. Beginning at the regular municipal election to be held in 1979, and every four years~~
46 ~~thereafter, two persons shall be elected to seats on the Council and shall serve four year terms.~~
47 ~~Beginning at the regular municipal election to be held in 1981, and every four years thereafter,~~
48 ~~three persons shall be elected to seats on the Council and shall serve four year terms.~~

49 "Sec. 3.5. Election of the Mayor, Term of Office. At the organizational meetings of the
50 Council following each regular municipal election, the Council shall elect one of its members to
51 serve as its Mayor. The Mayor shall serve as such at the pleasure of the Council.

1 "Sec. 3.6. Vacancies. Any vacancy in the office of Mayor shall be filled by appointment of
2 the Council and the person appointed shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.

3 ~~If a vacancy for any reason occurs on the Council, the remaining members shall, within 30~~
4 ~~days, appoint a qualified voter to fill the vacancy as provided herein. If the vacancy occurs in the~~
5 ~~first two years of a four-year term, and more than 30 days prior to the regular municipal election,~~
6 ~~the person appointed shall serve until the organizational meeting of the Council following the~~
7 ~~election. At the regular municipal election, a person shall be elected to serve the unexpired term,~~
8 ~~said term to begin on the date of the organizational meeting. A vacancy occurring otherwise shall~~
9 ~~be filled for the unexpired term."~~

10 **SECTION 4.9.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Village of
11 Foxfire Village in 2027. The terms of office for the two council members serving on the effective
12 date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year. The
13 terms of office for the three council members serving on the effective date of this section whose
14 terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the
15 Village of Foxfire Village shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
16 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

17 **VILLAGE OF PINEHURST**

18 **SECTION 4.10.(a)** Section III of the Charter of the Village of Pinehurst, being that
19 Charter approved by the Municipal Board of Control on May 8, 1980, as amended by Ordinance
20 Number 95-17 and by Ordinance Number 01-16, reads as rewritten:

21 "The Village Council shall consist of four Councilmembers and one Mayor. All
22 Councilmembers and the Mayor shall serve staggered terms of four years. ~~Non-partisan, plurality~~
23 ~~municipal elections shall be held by the County Board of Elections pursuant to Article Regular~~
24 ~~municipal elections shall be held at the time of the general election in each even-numbered year.~~
25 ~~Councilmembers and the Mayor shall be elected on a partisan basis. The primary and election~~
26 ~~shall be held and conducted in accordance with the general laws governing primaries and~~
27 ~~elections for county officers. Except as otherwise provided, the election shall be conducted in~~
28 ~~accordance with Articles 23 and 24 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina and~~
29 ~~shall be conducted as provided in G.S. 163-292.Statutes.~~

30 ~~At the regular municipal elections to be held in 2003, and every four years thereafter, the two~~
31 ~~candidates for Village Council who receive the highest number of votes shall be elected to four-~~
32 ~~year terms, while the candidate for Mayor who receives the highest number of votes shall be~~
33 ~~elected to the office of Mayor for a four-year term. At the regular municipal election to be held~~
34 ~~in 2005, and every four years thereafter, the two candidates for Village Council who receive the~~
35 ~~highest number of votes shall be elected for four year terms.~~

36 The Mayor has the right to vote on all matters before the Council. The Mayor has no right to
37 break a tie vote in which he participated.

38 Any candidate seeking nomination by petition for municipal office shall comply with the
39 requirements of Article 11 of Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, except that
40 the date and time petitions must be filed with the county board of elections shall be in accordance
41 with G.S. 163-122(a)(3)."

42 **SECTION 4.10.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Village of
43 Pinehurst in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and two councilmembers serving on the
44 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.
45 The terms of office for the two councilmembers serving on the effective date of this section
46 whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year. Regular municipal elections
47 in the Village of Pinehurst shall resume in even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same
48 staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in odd-numbered years.

49 **VILLAGE OF WHISPERING PINES**

1 of the Moore County Board of Education to serve the remainder of the unexpired term. When a
2 vacancy occurs in a seat elected from a residency district, the successor shall be selected from
3 the residency district of the vacating member. Each member of the Moore County Board of
4 Education elected in 2026, or any member appointed to fill a vacancy for a member elected in
5 2026, shall serve until a successor has been elected and qualified.

6 **SECTION 5.(d)** G.S. 115C-37.1(d) reads as rewritten:

7 "(d) This section shall apply only to the Asheboro City Board of Education, the Hickory
8 City Board of Education and the Newton-Conover City Board of Education and in the following
9 counties: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Beaufort, Brunswick, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell,
10 Carteret, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Columbus, Craven, Dare, Davie, Forsyth, Gaston, Graham,
11 Harnett, Henderson, Hyde, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell,
12 Moore, New Hanover, Onslow, Pamlico, Pender, Polk, Rowan, Rutherford, Scotland, Stanly,
13 Stokes, Surry, Vance, Washington, and Yancey."

14 **SECTION 5.(e)** This section becomes effective the first Monday in December 2028.
15 In order to implement this section, the 2028 elections shall be conducted as if the provisions of
16 this section were already in effect.

17 18 **PART VI. REPEAL MOORE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD POLICE**

19 **SECTION 6.(a)** S.L. 2010-64 is repealed.

20 **SECTION 6.(b)** This section becomes effective January 1, 2027.

21 22 **PART VII. ADD CHOWAN COUNTY TO ALBEMARLE DISTRICT JAIL** 23 **COMMISSION**

24 **SECTION 7.(a)** Section 2 of Chapter 341 of the 1971 Session Laws reads as
25 rewritten:

26 "Sec. 2. Article 7 of Chapter 153 of the General Statutes is hereby amended by adding a new
27 section to read as follows:

28 "**G.S. 153-53.8. District or regional jail commission.** – When two or more units of local
29 government have entered into an agreement as authorized in G.S. 153-53.7, the governing bodies
30 shall create a jail commission composed of representatives from each participating unit appointed
31 by the governing board of each unit. The number of members and their apportionment among
32 the participating units shall be mutually agreed upon by the participating units, but if no
33 agreement can be reached, each participating unit shall be allotted two members. Each member
34 shall be appointed for a term of two years, and shall serve until his or her successor is appointed
35 and qualified. Vacancies occurring for any cause shall be filled by appointment by the governing
36 body which made the original appointment in which the vacancy occurs.

37 The jail commission shall be the administrative authority of the confinement facility, and
38 shall adopt rules and regulations for the operation of the facility which are not in conflict with
39 law.

40 The jail commission shall have all of the following powers and duties:

- 41 (1) ~~within~~ Within the limits of funds made available to it, and when authorized by
42 the governing bodies of the local units, to enter into contracts in the name of
43 the respective units for the construction and operation of the confinement
44 ~~facilities;~~ facilities.
- 45 (2) ~~to~~ To employ such personnel as may be necessary to carry out its ~~work;~~ work.
- 46 (3) ~~to~~ To accept, receive and disburse in furtherance of its functions any funds,
47 grants and services made available by the State or federal governments and
48 their agencies, any municipality or county and by private sources. All fiscal
49 procedures shall be in accordance with the laws applicable to the participating
50 units, and the jail commission shall prepare each year a report of its activities

1 including a financial statement, and distribute the report to each participating
2 unit.

3 The jail commission shall organize by electing a ~~chairman~~, ~~chair~~, vice ~~chairman~~ ~~chair~~, and
4 secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer shall provide a surety bond payable to the State of
5 North Carolina in such amount and on such terms as the jail commission may require. The jail
6 commission shall hold one regular meeting each month and may call special meetings at the
7 request of the ~~chairman~~ ~~chair~~ or any two members.

8 The jail commission shall perform such duties and functions relating to the confinement
9 facility as the governing bodies of the participating units by joint resolution may direct. Members
10 of the jail commission shall receive such compensation as the governing bodies of the
11 participating units may fix by resolution. The amount of financial contribution of each
12 participating unit to the jail commission shall be determined by a percentage proportion that the
13 population of each participating unit bears to the total population of all participating units as
14 indicated by the latest federal census of population.

15 This section shall apply only to the following counties: Camden, Chowan, Pasquotank, and
16 Perquimans."''

17 **SECTION 7.(b)** Section 2.1 of Chapter 341 of the 1971 Session Laws reads as
18 rewritten:

19 "Sec. 2.1. The jail commission for Camden, Chowan, Pasquotank, and Perquimans ~~and~~
20 ~~Camden~~ Counties shall be composed of one member from Camden, one member from Chowan,
21 two members from Pasquotank, and one member from Perquimans ~~and one member from~~
22 ~~Camden~~ Perquimans."

23 **SECTION 7.(c)** Section 2 of Chapter 371 of the 1991 Session Laws reads as
24 rewritten:

25 "Sec. 2. This act applies only to the Albemarle District Jail facility in Elizabeth City and to
26 Camden, Chowan, Pasquotank, and Perquimans Counties, which place prisoners in that facility."

27 **SECTION 7.(d)** This section becomes effective July 1, 2026.

29 **PART VIII. CLAREMONT BUILDING HEIGHT LIMITATIONS**

30 **SECTION 8.** Notwithstanding any provision of Chapter 160D of the General
31 Statutes, the City of Claremont may establish a maximum building height on any building within
32 the corporate limits of the City of Claremont not to exceed 125 feet. For purposes of this section,
33 "building height" shall mean the vertical distance measured from the average grade to the highest
34 point of the coping of a flat roof, to the deck line of a mansard roof, or to the mean height level
35 between the eaves and ridge of a gable, hip, or gambrel roof. The height limitation created by
36 this section does not apply to spires, belfries, cupolas, antennas, water tanks, ventilators,
37 chimneys, or other appurtenances usually required to be placed above the roof level and not
38 intended for human occupancy. This section does not apply to (i) buildings erected prior to July
39 1, 2026, (ii) hospitals, (iii) churches, (iv) cultural performing arts centers, or (v) government
40 buildings. Variances to this section may be granted by the council.

42 **PART IX. HARNETT COUNTY JETPORT**

43 **SECTION 9.(a)** G.S. 160D-904 reads as rewritten:

44 "**§ 160D-904. Airport zoning.**

45 Any local government may enact and enforce airport zoning regulations pursuant to this
46 Chapter or as authorized by Article 4 of Chapter 63 of the General Statutes. G.S. 160D-601(d)
47 shall not apply to airport zoning regulations. Airport zoning regulations for real property within
48 6 miles of any cargo airport complex site subject to regulation by the North Carolina Global
49 TransPark Authority are governed by G.S. 63A-18."

50 **SECTION 9.(b)** This Part applies only to Harnett County.

1 **PART X. EFFECTIVE DATE**

2 **SECTION 10.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
3 law.