

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL 386
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S386-PCS45359-BK-33

Short Title: Residency Districts/City of Northwest.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

March 29, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF NORTHWEST TO AMEND ITS CHARTER TO
3 ESTABLISH RESIDENCY DISTRICTS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.(a)** Section 3.2 of the Charter of the City of Northwest, being Chapter
6 222 of the 1993 Session Laws, is recodified as Section 4.2 of the Charter of the City of Northwest.

7 **SECTION 1.(b)** Chapter IV of the Charter of the City of Northwest, being Chapter
8 222 of the 1993 Session Laws, as amended by Section 1(a) of this act, reads as rewritten:

9 "CHAPTER IV.

10 "ELECTIONS.

11 "Sec. 4.1. **Conduct of Town Elections.** The Town officers shall be elected on a nonpartisan
12 basis, and the results determined by plurality as provided in G.S. 163-292. Elections shall be
13 conducted by the Brunswick County Board of Elections.

14 "Sec. 4.2. **Manner of Electing Council.** The qualified voters of the entire City elect the
15 members of the Council. To be eligible for election, a ~~person~~candidate must reside in the
16 ~~City~~district for which that person is seeking election.

17 "Sec. 4.3. **Residency Districts.** For the purpose of conducting elections, the City shall be
18 divided into geographical subdivisions known as residency districts. Districts 1, 2, and 4 shall be
19 single-member districts, and District 3 shall be a two-member district. The residency districts
20 may be revised by the Council from time to time."

21 **SECTION 2.** Section 3.3 of the Charter of the City of Northwest, being Chapter 222
22 of the 1993 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

23 "Sec. 3.3. **Term of Office of Council Members.** Members of the Council are elected to
24 four-year terms ~~except that of those elected at the initial election in 1993, the three highest vote~~
25 ~~getters who are elected shall serve for four-year terms and the next two highest vote getters shall~~
26 ~~serve for two-year terms. In 1995 and quadrennially thereafter, two members of the Council shall~~
27 ~~be elected for four-year terms. In 1997 and quadrennially thereafter, three members of the~~
28 ~~Council shall be elected for four-year staggered terms.~~"

29 **SECTION 3.(a)** Nothing in this act shall affect the terms of office of any person
30 elected in 2019 or 2021 to the Council of the City of Northwest who shall continue to hold
31 at-large positions on the Council until the end of their term or a vacancy occurs due to resignation
32 or other causes.

33 **SECTION 3.(b)** In 2023 and quadrennially thereafter, two members of the Council
34 of the City of Northwest shall be elected from District 3 for four-year terms. In 2025 and
35 quadrennially thereafter, three members of the Council of the City of Northwest shall be elected,
36 one member from each of Districts 1, 2, and 4, for four-year terms.



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1 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held
2 on or after that date.