



SENATE BILL 36: Greensboro City Council Changes

2015-2016 General Assembly

Committee: Senate Redistricting
Introduced by: Sen. Wade
Analysis of: Second Edition

Date: March 10, 2015
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SUMMARY: *Senate Bill 36 would do all of the following:*

- *Reaffirms that the City of Greensboro operates under the Council-Manager form of government and establishes that the form of government will remain unchanged until a subsequent act of the General Assembly;*
- *Establishes 7 single member districts;*
- *Provides that the Mayor votes only in the case of a tie, and for employment of the City Manager and City Attorney;*
- *Provides that elections for the City Council will be determined using the election and run-off method.*

CURRENT LAW & BILL ANALYSIS:

Section 1 of the bill would establish, by local act, that the City of Greensboro operates under the Council-Manager form of government, and also establishes that any changes to the form of government in the City of Greensboro would need further act of the General Assembly.

Section 2. Currently, the City Council consists of eight members and a mayor, who all serve two year terms. Three of the City Council members, and the mayor, run at large; and five of the City Council members run from districts. Section 2 of the bill would establish seven single member districts, as shown by the map labeled "Senate Bill 36 Edition 2," and provide for four year terms for those seven members. The bill also provides for a four year term for the office of mayor.

Sections 3 and 4. Currently, the mayor may vote on any matter before the City Council, but does not have a veto of any action taken by the City Council. Sections 3 and 4 of the bill would provide that the mayor may vote only in the case of a tie, and vote for the employment, discipline, or dismissal of the city manager or city attorney.

Section 5. Currently, according to the School of Government, the City Council uses the nonpartisan primary method of determining election results. Section 5 of the bill would apply the election and run-off method of determining election results to the elections for the City. Under the election and run-off method, the election would be held on the fourth Tuesday before the Tuesday after the first Monday in November; and the runoff election, if required, would be held on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held on or after that date, and to acts of the mayor on or after that date.

