



HOUSE BILL 407: Cabarrus County Commissioners Redistricting.

2017-2018 General Assembly

Committee:	House Elections and Ethics Law. If favorable, re-refer to State and Local Government I	Date:	June 21, 2017
Introduced by:	Rep. Pittman	Prepared by:	Erika Churchill and Jessica Sammons, Committee Co-Counsel
Analysis of:	First Edition		

OVERVIEW: House Bill 407 would, subject to voter approval in a county-wide referendum on November 6, 2018, increase the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners from five members to seven members, consisting of six members elected from single-member electoral districts and one at-large member.

CURRENT LAW: Currently, the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners consists of five members who serve staggered four-year terms. Members are elected on a partisan basis from the county at-large. Elections occur in November of even-numbered years, and the Board takes office on the first Monday in December. Two members were elected in 2016 and their terms expire in December 2020. Three members were elected in 2014 and their terms expire in December 2018.

BILL ANALYSIS: House Bill 407 would provide for a county-wide referendum to be conducted by the Cabarrus County Board on Elections on November 6, 2018. The referendum would determine whether a majority of the qualified voters of Cabarrus County approve of increasing the membership of the Cabarrus County Board of Commissioners from five members to seven members beginning in 2020, consisting of six electoral districts and one at-large seat.

If the referendum is approved, the following changes would become effective upon ratification:

- Six single-member electoral districts would be established.¹
- The three members to be elected in 2018 would serve a two-year term, expiring in 2020.
- Beginning in 2020, the Board would consist of seven members: six members elected from the single-member electoral districts and one at-large member.
- To implement the staggering of terms, the following would apply:
 - In 2020, members from Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4 would be elected for a two-year term. In 2022, members from these districts would stand for election for a four-year term.
 - In 2020, members from Districts 5 and 6 and the at-large member would stand for election for a four-year term.

EFFECTIVE DATE: The provision calling for a county-wide referendum would be effective when the act becomes law. The changes to local session law would become effective upon ratification of the approval by the voters of the referendum.

¹ See the provided map and associated stat pack for the districts for further information.

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