



# HOUSE BILL 993: Bessemer City Charter Amendment.

2017-2018 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	House State and Local Government I	<b>Date:</b>	May 30, 2018
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Rep. Hastings	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Jessica Sammons
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *House Bill 993 would amend the Charter of the City of Bessemer City to authorize the city manager to appoint the city clerk and one or more deputy city clerks to serve at the city manager's pleasure.*

**CURRENT LAW:** G.S. 160A-171 requires each municipality to have a city clerk who shall give notice of City Council meetings, serve as custodian of City records, and perform other duties required by law or as directed by the City Council.

Under the current Charter of the City of Bessemer City, the City Council appoints both a city manager and a city clerk to serve at its pleasure. The city manager serves as the chief administrator of the City, and has the powers and duties described in G.S. 160A-148. However, the city manager does not have the authority to hire or fire the city clerk. Under the Charter, the City Council may also appoint or provide for one or more deputy city clerks, and may specify the powers and duties of any deputy city clerks.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** House Bill 993 would amend the Charter of the City of Bessemer City to grant the city manager, rather than the City Council, the power to appoint a city clerk and one or more deputy city clerks to serve at the city manager's pleasure. The city manager would also have the power to specify the powers and duties of any deputy city clerks.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** Effective when it becomes law.

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