**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**A262, R231, H5288**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Reps. Weeks and G.M. Smith

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Introduced in the House on April 26, 2022

Introduced in the Senate on May 10, 2022

Last Amended on May 10, 2022

Passed by the General Assembly on May 12, 2022

Governor's Action: May 18, 2022, Signed

Summary: Sumter County School District

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

4/26/2022 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\hj\20220426.docx))

4/26/2022 House Referred to **Sumter Delegation** ([House Journal‑page 41](file:///h:\hj\20220426.docx))

5/4/2022 House Recalled from **Sumter Delegation** ([House Journal‑page 40](file:///h:\hj\20220504.docx))

5/5/2022 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 98](file:///h:\hj\20220505.docx))

5/5/2022 House Roll call Yeas‑91 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 98](file:///h:\hj\20220505.docx))

5/5/2022 House Unanimous consent for third reading on next legislative day ([House Journal‑page 100](file:///h:\hj\20220505.docx))

5/5/2022 Scrivener's error corrected

5/6/2022 House Read third time and sent to Senate ([House Journal‑page 3](file:///h:\hj\20220506.docx))

5/10/2022 Senate Introduced, read first time, placed on local & uncontested calendar ([Senate Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\sj\20220510.docx))

5/10/2022 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\sj\20220510.docx))

5/10/2022 Senate Unanimous consent for second and third readings on next two consecutive legislative days ([Senate Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\sj\20220510.docx))

5/11/2022 Senate Read second time

5/12/2022 Senate Read third time and returned to House with amendments ([Senate Journal‑page 20](file:///h:\sj\20220512.docx))

5/12/2022 House Concurred in Senate amendment and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 153](file:///h:\hj\20220512.docx))

5/12/2022 House Roll call Yeas‑97 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 153](file:///h:\hj\20220512.docx))

5/12/2022 Ratified R 231 ([Senate Journal‑page 230](file:///h:\sj\20220512.docx))

5/18/2022 Signed By Governor

5/31/2022 Effective date 05/18/22

7/25/2022 Act No.  262

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=5288&session=124&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[4/26/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\5288_20220426.docx)

[5/4/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\5288_20220504.docx)

[5/5/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\5288_20220505.docx)

[5/10/2022](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\5288_20220510.docx)

(A262, R231, H5288)

**AN ACT TO AMEND ACT 321 OF 2010, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO THE CONSOLIDATION OF THE SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT, SO AS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, ESTABLISH AND REAPPORTION THE NINE SINGLE‑MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS FROM WHICH THE MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT MUST BE ELECTED BEGINNING WITH THE 2022 SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTIONS; TO PROVIDE THAT THE NINE MEMBERS OF THE SUMTER SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES MUST BE ELECTED FOR FOUR‑YEAR TERMS IN NONPARTISAN ELECTIONS CONDUCTED AT THE SAME TIME AS THE 2022 GENERAL ELECTION AND EVERY TWO OR FOUR YEARS THEREAFTER, EXCEPT AS NECESSARY TO STAGGER THE MEMBERS’ TERMS; AND TO PROVIDE DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION REGARDING THESE SINGLE‑MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Sumter School District Board of Trustees, Reapportioned**

SECTION 1. SECTION 2(A) of Act 321 of 2010, as last amended by Act 106 of 2017, is further amended to read:

“(A)(1) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the Sumter School District must be governed by a nine‑member board of trustees. Beginning with the 2022 General Election, each of the nine members of the Sumter School District Board of Trustees must be elected in nonpartisan elections to be conducted at the same time as the general election and every two or four years thereafter, except as may be provided to stagger the members’ terms. The board members must be elected by the qualified electors of the Sumter School District from one of the nine defined single‑member districts as shown on the Sumter School District map on file with the Revenue and Fiscal Affairs Office and designated as document S‑85‑00‑22. This map, unless subsequently amended by the General Assembly or a court of competent jurisdiction, must be used for school district elections and to fill any vacancies that occur following the 2022 school district elections. A board member representing a numbered district must be a resident of the school district and the numbered single‑member district from which he is elected, and only those electors residing in the particular district are eligible to vote for the trustee who will represent the district.

(2) Notwithstanding another provision of law, the nine incumbent members of the Sumter School District Board of Trustees holding office on June 30, 2022, shall serve until their successors are elected in the 2022 school district elections and qualify. These incumbent board members also may seek election to the Sumter School District Board of Trustees in the 2022 school district elections.

(3) The members of the Sumter School District Board of Trustees must be elected for four‑year terms and until their successors are elected and qualify, except that of the nine board members elected in the 2022 school district elections, the five members who receive the five highest vote totals shall serve full four‑year terms and until their successors are elected in the 2026 school district elections and qualify, and the four members who receive the four lowest vote totals shall serve initial two‑year terms to expire in November 2024, when their successors elected at the 2024 school district elections qualify and take office for full four‑year terms. In the event of a vacancy on the Sumter School District Board of Trustees occurring for a reason other than expiration of a term, the board shall call a special election to fill the unexpired term, so long as the vacancy does not occur within one hundred eighty days of a general election at which school district elections are to be conducted. In this case, the vacancy must be filled for the unexpired term through appointment by the Governor.

(4) Notwithstanding another provision of law, all persons desiring to qualify as a candidate for the Sumter School District Board of Trustees shall file written notice of candidacy with the Sumter County Board of Voter Registration and Elections on forms furnished by the board. The filing period shall open at 12:00 p.m. on August first or, if August first falls on Saturday or Sunday, then 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday and shall run until 12:00 p.m. on August fifteenth or, if August fifteenth falls on Saturday or Sunday, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the following Monday. This notice of candidacy must be a sworn statement and shall include the candidate’s name, age, address, election district in which the candidate resides and from which he seeks election, voting precinct, period of residence in the county, and other information that the board requires.

(5) The Sumter County Board of Voter Registration and Elections shall conduct and supervise the elections for members of the Sumter School District Board of Trustees in the manner governed by the election laws of this State, mutatis mutandis. The county elections board shall prepare the necessary ballots, appoint managers for the voting precincts, and do all things necessary to carry out the elections, including the counting of ballots and declaring the results. The county elections board shall publish notices of the elections pursuant to Section 7‑13‑35. The results of the school district elections must be determined by the nonpartisan election and runoff election method pursuant to Section 5‑15‑62. In order to ensure the continuity of experience on the Sumter School District Board of Trustees following the 2022 school district elections, the nine board members elected in the 2022 school district elections shall take office after December 31, 2022; however, beginning with the 2024 school district elections, the members of the Sumter School District Board of Trustees shall take office one week following certification of their election pursuant to Section 59‑19‑315.

(6) The members of the board shall elect a chairman and other officers they consider necessary to serve for terms of two years in these capacities.

(B) The demographic information for each of the nine single‑member districts shown on the Sumter School District map is as follows:

District Pop. Dev. % Dev. Hisp. %Hisp.

1 11,794 66 0.56% 802 6.80%

2 11,222 ‑506 ‑4.31% 431 3.84%

3 11,687 ‑41 ‑0.35% 390 3.34%

4 11,878 150 1.28% 349 2.94%

5 12,348 620 5.29% 473 3.83%

6 11,237 ‑491 ‑4.19% 320 2.85%

7 11,635 ‑93 ‑0.79% 522 4.49%

8 11,688 ‑40 ‑0.34% 491 4.20%

9 12,067 339 2.89% 524 4.34%

Totals 105,556 4,302 4.08%

District NHWhite %NHWhite NHBlk %NH Blk VAP %VAP

1 6,140 52.06% 3,846 32.61% 8,866 75.17%

2 3,792 33.79% 6,512 58.03% 8,816 78.56%

3 6,036 51.65% 4,712 40.32% 9,147 78.27%

4 4,255 35.82% 6,954 58.55% 9,316 78.43%

5 5,137 41.60% 6,246 50.58% 9,289 75.23%

6 6,915 61.54% 3,462 30.81% 8,707 77.49%

7 2,954 25.39% 7,910 67.98% 8,647 74.32%

8 6,864 58.73% 3,502 29.96% 8,999 76.99%

9 4,349 36.04% 6,613 54.80% 9,615 79.68%

Totals 46,442 44.00% 49,757 47.14% 81,402

District HVAP %HVAP NH WVAP %NH WVAP NH BVAP % NH BVAP

1 521 5.88% 4,878 55.02% 2,767 31.21%

2 273 3.10% 3,133 35.54% 5,049 57.27%

3 241 2.63% 4,879 53.34% 3,631 39.70%

4 230 2.47% 3,479 37.34% 5,368 57.62%

5 305 3.28% 4,091 44.04% 4,579 49.29%

6 204 2.34% 5,565 63.91% 2,550 29.29%

7 337 3.90% 2,517 29.11% 5,628 65.09%

8 345 3.83% 5,479 60.88% 2,546 28.29%

9 401 4.17% 3,703 38.51% 5,061 52.64%

Totals 2,857 3.51% 37,724 46.34% 37,179 45.67%”

**School District’s exterior boundaries unaffected**

SECTION 2. The exterior boundaries of the Sumter School District are not altered by the provisions of this act. These school district lines are as defined by law and any census blocks which may be divided are done so only for statistical purposes and to establish a population base.

**Inconsistent local acts repealed**

SECTION 3. All local acts pertaining to Sumter School District elections inconsistent with the provisions of this act are repealed as of July 1, 2022, it being the intent of the General Assembly to have this act and the general law be the only provisions of law governing the election of members to the Sumter School District Board of Trustees.

**Time effective**

SECTION 4. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

Ratified the 12th day of May, 2022.

Approved the 18th day of May, 2022.

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