

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011**

**HOUSE BILL 536
RATIFIED BILL**

AN ACT REQUIRING THE LINCOLN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REVISE ITS RESIDENCY DISTRICTS AFTER EACH DECENNIAL CENSUS AS IF THEY WERE ELECTORAL DISTRICTS AND REQUIRING THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION TO REVISE ITS ELECTION DISTRICTS AFTER EACH DECENNIAL CENSUS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1.(a) Section 3 of Chapter 876 of the 1973 Session Laws, as rewritten by S.L. 2002-22, reads as rewritten:

"Sec. 3. (a) ~~The newly constituted and established Lincoln County Board of Education shall consist of seven members, members, and each of said Five members shall be residents and qualified voters of the districts according to the membership allocations hereinafter made as follows:~~

- ~~(1) North Brook Township,~~
- ~~(2) The area of Howard's Creek Township outside the city limits of Lincolnton,~~
- ~~(3) The area of Lincolnton Township outside the city limits of Lincolnton,~~
- ~~(4) The area inside the city limits of Lincolnton,~~
- ~~(5) The area of Ironton Township outside the city limits of Lincolnton, and~~
- (6) Catawba Springs Township by the Lincoln County Board of Education with the population of each district being within five percent (5%) of the ideal population, which is one-fifth of the total population of the county.

Each district shall each be entitled to one member on the Lincoln County Board of Education. ~~For the purpose of this section, the city limits of the City of Lincolnton are as of the opening of candidate filing.~~

~~One member~~ Two members shall be elected from the county at large, without regard to ~~township, district~~ residency.

(b) The Lincoln County Board of Education shall revise the district boundaries set out by the Board of Education under subsection (a) of this section after each federal census as provided by this subsection so as to correct population imbalances among the districts. After revising district boundaries under this subsection, the board of education shall not revise them again until a new federal census of population is taken. The population of each district shall be within five percent (5%) of the ideal population, being one-fifth of the total population of the county."

SECTION 1.(b) The Lincoln County Board of Education shall draw residency districts as required by this section for use in the 2012 elections using population data from the 2010 federal decennial census.

SECTION 2. Section 3(f) of Chapter 80 of the 1995 Session Laws reads as rewritten:

"(f) The provisions of G.S. 115C-37, except for subsection (i), shall be applicable to the members of the Chatham County Board of Education. Using population data from the 2010 federal decennial census, the Chatham County Board of Education shall, before the filing period for the 2012 Board elections, to revise the district boundaries set out in subsection (b), above, equalize the population in each district and divide District Number Four into two resident districts to be denominated District Number Four and District Number Five. The Board shall adopt the revisions as a resolution and notify the county board of elections. Board members elected from Districts Number Four and Five shall serve the same terms as the two members previously elected from District Number Four. After each subsequent federal decennial census, the Board of Education shall revise the Board's resident district boundaries if



appropriate to equalize the population among districts. The Board shall complete its revision of resident district boundaries in time for the first Board election following the decennial census year. In revising resident district boundaries under this subsection, the Board shall make the districts as close to equal in population as practicable while maintaining compactness and avoiding the division of towns and other communities of interest. After revising district boundaries under this subsection, the Board of Education shall not revise them again until the next federal decennial census of population is returned. Before adopting a resolution to revise district boundaries pursuant to this subsection, the Board shall conduct a public hearing on the resolution. No change in the boundaries of a residency district may affect the unexpired term of office of a member of the Board of Education."

SECTION 3. This act is effective when it becomes law.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 18th day of June, 2011.

Philip E. Berger
President Pro Tempore of the Senate

Thom Tillis
Speaker of the House of Representatives