

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1997

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2

HOUSE BILL 72

Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee Substitute Adopted 8/14/97

Short Title: Oak Ridge Incorporated.

(Local)

Sponsors:

Referred to: Finance.

February 6, 1997

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE TOWN OF OAK RIDGE, SUBJECT TO A  
REFERENDUM.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. A charter is enacted for the Town of Oak Ridge to read:

**"CHARTER OF THE TOWN OF OAK RIDGE.**

**"CHAPTER 1.**

**"INCORPORATION AND CORPORATE POWERS.**

"Section 1.1. The inhabitants of the Town of Oak Ridge are a body corporate and politic under the name 'Town of Oak Ridge'. Under that name they have all the rights, powers, duties, privileges and immunities conferred and imposed upon cities by the general law of North Carolina.

"Section 1.2. (a) Article 4A of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes does not apply to the Town of Oak Ridge until July 1, 2017.

(b) G.S. 160A-58.1(b)(2) does not apply to (i) the City of Greensboro as it relates to the Town of Oak Ridge or (ii) the Town of Kernersville as it relates to the Town of Oak Ridge or to property in the Oak Ridge Fire District.

**"CHAPTER 2.**

**"CORPORATE BOUNDARIES.**

1 "Section 2.1. Until changed in accordance with law, the boundaries of the Town of  
2 Oak Ridge are as follows:

3 From the southwestern boundary of the Stokesdale City Limits, south on the east side of  
4 the Haw River Road to Pepper Road, south on the east side of Pepper Road to NC Hwy.  
5 150, east on NC Hwy. 150 to Beason Road, south on the east side of Beason Road to  
6 Reedy Fork Creek, east on Reedy Fork Creek to NC Hwy. 68, south on Hwy. 68 to the  
7 Oak Ridge Township line, east on the Oak Ridge Township line to Golden Acre Road,  
8 north on Golden Acre Road to the intersection with Alcorn Road (includes all properties  
9 known as the Golden Acre Subdivision), north on Alcorn Road to Reedy Fork Creek, east  
10 on Reedy Fork Creek to the Oak Ridge & Bruce Township line, north to the southern  
11 boundary of Stokesdale City Limits, west following the southern boundary of Stokesdale  
12 City Limits to the Guilford County line.

### 13 "CHAPTER 3.

#### 14 "GOVERNING BODY.

15 "Section 3.1. The governing body of the Town of Oak Ridge is the Town Council,  
16 which has five members.

17 "Section 3.2. The qualified voters of the entire Town elect the members of the Town  
18 Council.

19 "Section 3.3. From the effective date of this charter until the organizational meeting  
20 of the Town Council after the 1999 municipal elections the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, and  
21 the other three members of Town Council will be:

22	Interim Mayor	Bill Parrish
23	Mayor Pro Tem	Gary Blackburn
24	Council	Mack Peoples
25	Council	Greg Bissett
26	Council	Roger Howerton

27 The Interim Mayor and Mayor Pro Tem named by this section shall only serve as such if  
28 another council member is not chosen for that position as provided by Section 3.5 of this  
29 Charter.

30 "Section 3.4. At the regular Town election in 1999, five council members shall be  
31 elected. The persons receiving the three highest numbers of votes shall be elected for  
32 four-year terms, and the two persons receiving the next highest numbers of votes shall be  
33 elected for two-year terms. In 2001 and quadrennially thereafter, two council members  
34 shall be elected for four-year terms. In 2003 and quadrennially thereafter, three council  
35 members shall be elected for four-year terms.

36 "Section 3.5. At the organizational meeting of the initial council and at the  
37 organizational meeting after each election, the council shall elect one of its members to  
38 serve at its pleasure as Mayor.

### 39 "CHAPTER 4.

#### 40 "ELECTIONS.

41 "Section 4.1. The Town Council shall be elected by the nonpartisan plurality method  
42 as provided by G.S. 163-292. Elections shall be governed by general law except as  
43 provided otherwise by this Charter.

1                                   **"CHAPTER 5.**  
2                                   **"ADMINISTRATION.**

3           "Section 5.1. The Town of Oak Ridge shall operate under the Mayor-Council plan as  
4 provided in Part 3 of Article 7 of Chapter 160A of the General Statutes.

5                                   **"CHAPTER 6.**  
6                                   **"TAXATION.**

7           "Section 6.1. Notwithstanding G.S. 160A-209(d), except with the approval of the  
8 qualified voters of the Town in a referendum under G.S. 160A-209, the Town may not  
9 levy ad valorem taxes in excess of twenty cents (20¢) on the one hundred dollars  
10 (\$100.00) valuation. This section does not limit taxation to pay the debt service on  
11 general obligation indebtedness incurred by the Town in accordance with law."

12           Section 2. From and after the effective date of the incorporation, the citizens  
13 and property in the Town of Oak Ridge shall be subject to municipal taxes levied for the  
14 year beginning July 1, 1997, and for that purpose the Town shall obtain from Guilford  
15 County a record of property in the area herein incorporate which was listed for taxes as of  
16 January 1, 1997, and the businesses in the Town shall be liable for privilege license tax  
17 from the effective date of the privilege license tax ordinance. The Town may adopt a  
18 budget ordinance for fiscal year 1997-98, without following the timetable in the local  
19 government budget and fiscal control act, but shall follow the sequence of actions in the  
20 spirit of the act insofar as is practical. For fiscal year 1997-98 ad valorem taxes may be  
21 paid at par or face amount within 90 days of adoption of the budget ordinance, and  
22 thereafter in accordance with the schedule in G.S. 105-36 as if taxes had been due and  
23 payable on September 1, 1997.

24           Section 3. (a) The Guilford County Board of Elections, shall conduct an  
25 election on the Tuesday after the first Monday in November of 1997 for the purpose of  
26 submission of the proposed Charter to the qualified voters of the area described in  
27 Section 2.1 of the Charter of the Town of Oak Ridge. Registration for the election shall  
28 be conducted in accordance with G.S. 163-288.2.

29           (b) In the election, the question on the ballot shall be:

30                                   **"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST**  
31                                   **INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF OAK RIDGE".**

32           Section 4. In such election if a majority of the votes cast are not cast "For  
33 incorporation of the Town of Oak Ridge", then Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall have no  
34 force or effect.

35           Section 5. In such election, if a majority of the votes cast shall be cast "For  
36 incorporation of the Town of Oak Ridge", then Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall become  
37 effective on the date that the Guilford County Board of Elections determines the result of  
38 the election.

39           Section 6. This act is effective when it becomes law.