

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

H.B. 1117  
Apr 29, 2026  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH10617-NTe-26

Short Title: Even-Year Municipal Elections/Catawba Co. (Local)

Sponsors: Representative Adams.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT REGULAR MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS FOR ALL  
3 MUNICIPALITIES IN CATAWBA COUNTY BE HELD IN EVEN-NUMBERED  
4 YEARS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6  
7 **TOWN OF BROOKFORD**

8 **SECTION 1.(a)** Section 3 of the Charter of the Town of Brookford, being Chapter  
9 230 of the Private Laws of 1907, as amended by Chapter 109 of the 1961 Session Laws and  
10 Town Ordinance, reads as rewritten:

11 ~~"Sec. 3. That the officers of the said corporation shall be a mayor, three commissioners and~~  
12 ~~such other officers and agents as may be appointed by the board of commissioners to enforce~~  
13 ~~their ordinances, keep their records, and otherwise aid in the conduct of the affairs of the town.~~  
14 ~~That until Tuesday after the first Monday in May, one thousand nine hundred and seven, T. J.~~  
15 ~~Leonard is appointed to the office of mayor of said town, and W. H. Shuford, J. W. Ballew and~~  
16 ~~C. E. Cole are appointed commissioners thereof; that the said mayor and commissioners shall~~  
17 ~~hold their offices until their successors are elected and qualified, as hereafter provided.~~The  
18 officers of the Town of Brookford shall be a mayor and four aldermen. The term of office for  
19 mayor shall be four years. The terms of office for the aldermen shall be four-year staggered  
20 terms."

21 **SECTION 1.(b)** Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Brookford, being Chapter  
22 230 of the Private Laws of 1907, as amended by Chapter 109 of the 1961 Session Laws and  
23 Town Ordinance, reads as rewritten:

24 ~~"Sec. 4. That there shall be an election to the offices of mayor and commissioners of said~~  
25 ~~town on Tuesday after the first Monday in May, one thousand nine hundred and seven, and~~  
26 ~~biennially thereafter, under the same restrictions and regulations under which State and county~~  
27 ~~elections are held, and as provided by law for elections in cities and towns in North~~  
28 ~~Carolina.~~Regular municipal elections for officers in the Town of Brookford shall be held at the  
29 time of the general election in each even-numbered year. The election shall be conducted on a  
30 nonpartisan plurality basis and the results determined in accordance with G.S. 163-292. Except  
31 as otherwise provided, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal  
32 election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes."

33 **SECTION 1.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Brookford  
34 in 2027. The terms of office for the two Aldermen in the Town of Brookford serving on the  
35 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.  
36 The terms of office for the Mayor and two Aldermen in the Town of Brookford serving on the



1 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one year.  
2 Regular municipal elections in the Town of Brookford shall resume in even-numbered years  
3 beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in the  
4 odd-numbered years.

## 6 TOWN OF CATAWBA

7 **SECTION 2.(a)** Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Catawba, being Chapter  
8 274 of the Private Laws of 1893, as amended by Chapter 333 of the 1951 Session Laws, Chapter  
9 224 of the 1965 Session Laws, Town Ordinance No. 02-10 adopted on July 1, 2002, and Town  
10 Ordinance No. 2006-15 adopted on November 6, 2006, and referred to as Section 5 in the current  
11 amended Town Code, reads as rewritten:

12 "Sec. 5. Elections.

13 ...

14 (b) Elections shall be conducted on the first Tuesday of November in ~~odd-numbered~~  
15 even-numbered years as provided by the laws of North Carolina.

16 ...

17 (d) The mayor shall be elected every four years, for a term of four years, ~~beginning with the~~  
18 regular municipal election in 2007-years.

19 ...."

20 **SECTION 2.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Catawba  
21 in 2027. The terms of office for the Mayor and two Council members in the Town of Catawba  
22 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be  
23 extended by one year. The terms of office for the two Council members in the Town of Catawba  
24 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be  
25 extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the Town of Catawba shall resume in  
26 even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections  
27 were conducted in the odd-numbered years.

## 29 CITY OF CLAREMONT

30 **SECTION 3.(a)** Section 3 of the Charter of the City of Claremont, being Chapter 11  
31 of the Private Laws of 1893, as amended by Chapter 76 of the 1961 Session Laws, Chapter 97 of  
32 the 1975 Session Laws, S.L. 2005-54, and Town Ordinance adopted on February 3, 1976, reads  
33 as rewritten:

34 "Sec. 3. Elections; Terms of mayor and ~~councilmen~~Council members.

35 (a) ~~At the regular annual election of city officers in May, 1961, in the City of Claremont, the~~  
36 ~~qualified voters shall elect a mayor and five (5) councilmen.~~ The governing body for the City of  
37 Claremont shall consist of a mayor and five council members, elected to serve four-year  
38 staggered terms. Regular municipal elections shall be held at the time of the general election in  
39 each even-numbered year. Council members for the City of Claremont shall be elected on a  
40 nonpartisan plurality basis and the results determined in accordance with G.S. 163-292. Except  
41 as otherwise provided, the election shall be conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal  
42 election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.

43 (b) ~~The mayor to be elected in 2005 shall~~ shall be elected to serve for a term of four years or  
44 until a successor is duly elected and qualified. Thereafter, a mayor shall be elected every four  
45 years in the odd-numbered years and the term of office shall be four years.

46 (c) ~~Of the five (5) councilmen now holding office in the City of Claremont, Catawba County,~~  
47 ~~successors to the offices now held by Harold McRee Wilson, Eddy Gaither Harwell, and William~~  
48 ~~David Watts shall be elected at the November, 1975, election, and every four (4) years thereafter,~~  
49 ~~for the City of Claremont and shall serve for terms of four (4) years or until their successors are~~  
50 ~~elected and qualified. Successors to the offices now held by Timothy Allan Lowrance and Gary~~  
51 ~~Wayne Carpenter shall be elected at the regular November, 1977, election, and every four (4)~~

1 years thereafter, for the City of Claremont and shall serve for terms of four (4) years or until their  
2 successors are elected and qualified. The terms of office of Timothy Allan Lowrance and Gary  
3 Wayne Carpenter are hereby extended to November, 1977, or until their successors are elected  
4 and qualified. Thereafter, as the terms of office expire, councilmen Council members elected at  
5 regular ~~town~~ City elections shall serve for terms of four (4) years or until their successors are  
6 duly elected and qualified."

7 **SECTION 3.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of Claremont  
8 in 2027. The terms of office for the three Council members in the City of Claremont serving on  
9 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one  
10 year. The terms of office for the Mayor and two Council members in the City of Claremont  
11 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be  
12 extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the City of Claremont shall resume in  
13 even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections  
14 were conducted in the odd-numbered years.

### 15 16 CITY OF CONOVER

17 **SECTION 4.(a)** Section 4.01 of the Charter of the City of Conover, being Chapter  
18 78 of the 1977 Session Laws, as amended by City Ordinance No. 16-96 adopted July 8, 1996,  
19 reads as rewritten:

20 "Section 4.01. Conduct of city elections. Regular municipal elections shall be held at the time  
21 of the general election in each even-numbered year. All elections for mayor and council shall be  
22 held on a nonpartisan basis and the results determined by plurality as provided in ~~G.S. 163-~~  
23 ~~279(a)(1).~~ G.S. 163-292. The term of office of the mayor shall be four (4) years. The terms of  
24 office of ~~councilmen~~ Council members shall be four years. ~~At the regular election in November,~~  
25 ~~1997, and quadrennially thereafter, two councilmen and the mayor shall be elected. At the regular~~  
26 ~~election in November, 1979, and quadrennially thereafter, three councilmen shall be elected.~~  
27 four-year staggered terms. The elections for the City of Conover shall be held and conducted  
28 pursuant to the applicable provisions of Articles 23 and 24 of in accordance with the uniform  
29 municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes of North Carolina. Statutes, except  
30 as otherwise provided."

31 **SECTION 4.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of Conover  
32 in 2027. The terms of office for the three Council members in the City of Conover serving on the  
33 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.  
34 The terms of office for the Mayor and two Council members in the City of Conover serving on  
35 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one  
36 year. Regular municipal elections in the City of Conover shall resume in even-numbered years  
37 beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in the  
38 odd-numbered years.

### 39 40 CITY OF HICKORY

41 **SECTION 5.(a)** Section 2.01 of the Charter of the City of Hickory, being Chapter  
42 323 of the 1961 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 404 of the 1967 Session Laws, reads as  
43 rewritten:

44 "Sec. 2.01. Composition, Election, and Terms of Mayor and City Council; Time of General  
45 Election. (a) The voters of the city shall elect a mayor and ~~six aldermen.~~ council members. The  
46 mayor shall be nominated and elected at large. The ~~aldermen~~ council members shall be  
47 nominated by wards and elected at large. The candidate from each ward receiving the highest  
48 number of votes shall be declared elected. Except as is otherwise provided in this Charter, no two  
49 ~~aldermen~~ council members shall be residents of the same ward. ~~All municipal elections shall be~~  
50 ~~nonpartisan.~~

1 (b) ~~A general municipal election shall be held on the first Monday in June of 1967, and~~  
2 ~~on the first Monday in June of 1968. In 1970, and biennially thereafter, the general municipal~~  
3 ~~election shall be held on the first Monday in June. Regular municipal elections shall be held at~~  
4 ~~the time of the general election in each even-numbered year. The mayor and aldermen shall be~~  
5 ~~elected on a nonpartisan primary basis and the results determined in accordance with~~  
6 ~~G.S. 163-294. Except as otherwise provided, the elections for the City of Hickory shall be held~~  
7 ~~and conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of the~~  
8 ~~General Statutes.~~

9 (c) ~~The terms of all council members shall begin at the day and hour prescribed by~~  
10 ~~Section 3.03 of this Charter for the taking of the oath of office, and shall run for a period of four~~  
11 ~~years, except for member's interim terms of three years for the next election of aldermen of the~~  
12 ~~fourth, fifth, and sixth wards. This Section shall apply to elections coming in 1967. Members~~  
13 ~~shall serve until their successors are elected and qualified. In the event that it is not possible~~  
14 ~~otherwise to determine which of two or more persons should be considered a hold-over alderman,~~  
15 ~~decision shall be made by lot between the aldermen who are willing to serve, the lots to be cast~~  
16 ~~under the supervision of the mayor and the remaining qualified aldermen. The mayor shall be~~  
17 ~~elected for a term of four years. The terms of office of council members shall be four-year~~  
18 ~~staggered terms."~~

19 **SECTION 5.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of Hickory  
20 in 2027. The terms of office for the three Council members in the City of Hickory serving on the  
21 effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.  
22 The terms of office for the Mayor and three Council members in the City of Hickory serving on  
23 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one  
24 year. Regular municipal elections in the City of Hickory shall resume in even-numbered years  
25 beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in the  
26 odd-numbered years.

## 27 28 **TOWN OF LONG VIEW**

29 **SECTION 6.(a)** Section 3 of the Charter of the Town of Long View, being Chapter  
30 430 of the Private Laws of 1907, as amended by Chapter 131 of the Private Laws of 1929,  
31 Chapter 789 of the 1955 Session Laws, and Motion of Town Board of Aldermen Meeting on  
32 January 3, 1978, reads as rewritten:

33 "Sec. 3. Town Elections.

34 (a) The governing body for the Town of Long View shall consist of a mayor and five  
35 aldermen. The mayor shall be nominated and elected by the voters at large for a four-year term  
36 and shall serve until a successor is elected and qualified. Each ward of the Town of Long View  
37 shall be represented on the board of aldermen by one alderman, who must be a resident of that  
38 ward and nominated and elected by that ward. The aldermen shall serve four-year staggered terms  
39 and until their successors are elected and qualified.

40 The Town of Long View shall be divided into five wards as follows:

41 ...

42 (b) Regular municipal elections shall be held at the time of the general election in each  
43 even-numbered year. The mayor and aldermen shall be elected on a nonpartisan plurality basis  
44 and the results determined in accordance with G.S. 163-292. Except as otherwise provided, the  
45 elections for the Town of Long View shall be held and conducted in accordance with the uniform  
46 municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes."

47 **SECTION 6.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Long  
48 View in 2027. The terms of office for the three Aldermen in the Town of Long View serving on  
49 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one  
50 year. The terms of office for the Mayor and two Aldermen in the Town of Long View serving on  
51 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one

1 year. Regular municipal elections in the Town of Long View shall resume in even-numbered  
2 years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in  
3 the odd-numbered years.

#### 4 5 TOWN OF MAIDEN

6 **SECTION 7.(a)** Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Maiden, being Chapter 103  
7 of the Private Laws of 1883, as amended by Chapter 445 of the 1955 Session Laws, Town  
8 Ordinance No. 3-76 adopted on April 5, 1976, and Ordinance No. 11-2006 adopted on April 3,  
9 2006, reads as rewritten:

10 "Section 4. Elections.

11 ...

12 (b) Elections shall be conducted on the first Tuesday of November in ~~odd-numbered~~  
13 even-numbered years as provided by the Laws of North Carolina.

14 (c) Election of the Mayor and Council shall be on a nonpartisan plurality basis and the  
15 following rules shall be utilized in determining those elected: ~~(1) When more than one person is~~  
16 ~~seeking election to a single office, the candidate who receives the highest number of votes shall~~  
17 ~~be declared elected. (2) When more persons are seeking election to two or more offices~~  
18 ~~(constituting a group) than there are offices to be filled, those candidates receiving the highest~~  
19 ~~number of votes equal in number to the number of offices to be filled, shall be declared elected.~~  
20 ~~(3) If two or more candidates receiving the highest number of votes each receive the same number~~  
21 ~~of votes, the board of elections shall determine the winner by lot.~~ results determined in accordance  
22 with G.S. 163-292. Except as otherwise provided, the elections for the Town of Maiden shall be  
23 held and conducted in accordance with the uniform municipal election laws in Chapter 163 of  
24 the General Statutes.

25 (d) The term of office for the Mayor shall be two ~~(2)~~-years.

26 (e) The term of office for the Council shall be ~~determined as follows: (1) Election in 1975 to~~  
27 ~~provide that the two candidates receiving the first and second largest number of votes to serve~~  
28 ~~four year terms; (2) Election in 1975 to provide that the three candidates receiving the third,~~  
29 ~~fourth, and fifth largest number of votes to serve two year terms; (3) Election in 1977 to provide~~  
30 ~~that the two candidates receiving the first and second largest number of votes to serve four year~~  
31 ~~terms; (4) Election in 1977 to provide that the candidate receiving the third largest number of~~  
32 ~~votes to serve a two-year term; (5) Election in all odd-numbered years after 1977 to provide that~~  
33 staggered such that during the regular municipal election in each even-numbered year, three  
34 council members shall be elected with the two candidates receiving the first and second largest  
35 number of votes to serve four-year terms; terms and the candidate receiving the third largest  
36 number of votes to serve a two-year term."

37 **SECTION 7.(b)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of Maiden  
38 in 2027. The terms of office for the Mayor and two Council members in the Town of Maiden  
39 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be  
40 extended by one year. The terms of office for three Council members in the Town of Maiden  
41 serving on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be  
42 extended by one year. Regular municipal elections in the Town of Maiden shall resume in  
43 even-numbered years beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections  
44 were conducted in the odd-numbered years.

#### 45 46 CITY OF NEWTON

47 **SECTION 8.(a)** Article III of the Charter of the City of Newton, being Chapter 1042  
48 of the 1989 Session Laws, as amended by City Ordinance No. 2002.29 adopted on July 10, 2002,  
49 reads as rewritten:

50 "ARTICLE III. GOVERNING BODY.

1 "Section 3.1. **Structure of Governing Body; Number of Members.** The Governing Body  
2 of the City of Newton is the ~~Board of Aldermen,~~ City Council, which has six members, and the  
3 Mayor.

4 "Section 3.2. **Manner of Election of ~~Board.~~ Council.** The qualified voters of the entire  
5 City elect the members of the ~~Board.~~Council.

6 "Section 3.3. **Term of Office of Members of the ~~Board.~~ Council.** Members of the ~~Board~~  
7 Council are elected to four-year staggered terms. ~~In 1991 and each four years thereafter, three~~  
8 ~~members of the Board shall be elected. In 1993 and each four years thereafter, three members of~~  
9 ~~the Board shall be elected.~~

10 "Section 3.4. **Election of Mayor; Term of Office.** The qualified voters of the entire City  
11 elect the ~~Mayor. A new Mayor shall be elected in 1991 and each two years thereafter.~~ Mayor,  
12 who shall serve a four-year term."

13 **SECTION 8.(b)** Section 4.1 of the Charter of the City of Newton, being Chapter  
14 1042 of the 1989 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

15 "Section 4.1. **Conduct of City Elections.** Regular municipal elections shall be held at the  
16 time of the general election in each even-numbered year. City officers shall be elected on a  
17 nonpartisan basis and the results determined by plurality, as provided by G.S. 163-292."

18 **SECTION 8.(c)** No municipal elections shall be conducted in the City of Newton in  
19 2027. The terms of office for the Mayor and three Council members in the City of Newton serving  
20 on the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by  
21 one year. The terms of office for the three Council members in the City of Newton serving on  
22 the effective date of this section whose terms are set to expire in 2029 shall be extended by one  
23 year. Regular municipal elections in the City of Newton shall resume in even-numbered years  
24 beginning in 2028 with the same staggering of terms as when elections were conducted in the  
25 odd-numbered years.

26  
27 **EFFECTIVE DATE**

28 **SECTION 9.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held  
29 on or after that date.