



# DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center  
1300 Commerce Drive  
Decatur, Georgia 30030

## Agenda Item

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**File #:** 2021-3289

Substitute

12/14/2021

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**Public Hearing:** YES  NO

**Department:** Board of Commissioners

**SUBJECT:**

**Commission District(s):** All Districts

The Governing Authority Of DeKalb County, Georgia, Requests The General Assembly Work Convene A Study Committee To Evaluate The Establishment Of An Independent Redistricting Commission To Operate All Redistricting And Reappointment Requirements Of The State Of Georgia

**Information Contact:** John W. Manson IV

**Phone Number:** 404-371-6207

**PURPOSE:**

Requesting the General Assembly work to convene a study committee to evaluate the establishment of an Independent Redistricting Commission to operate all Redistricting and Reappointment requirements of the State of Georgia

**NEED/IMPACT:**

To adopt the resolution;

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

None;

**RECOMMENDATION:**

To approve the resolution and authorize the chief executive officer to execute all necessary documents.....

**RESOLUTION****A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO THE DEKALB COUNTY DELEGATION OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO COVENE A STUDY COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN INDEPENDENT REDISTRICING COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Authority of DeKalb County requests that the DeKalb Delegation of the General Assembly support convening a study committee to evaluate the establishment of an Independent Redistricting Commission;

**WHEREAS**, every ten years based on the Federal Census data, district boundaries for Federal, State, and Local elected offices are redrawn as necessary to ensure equal representation of a jurisdictional population;

**WHEREAS**, Redistricting is designed to provide the public with organized understanding of their elected representation on the Federal, State and, Local levels and equal opportunity to participate in electing representatives but has become synonymous with political polarization and partiality;

**WHEREAS**, Eight States currently administer Redistricting and Reapportionment through an independent Commission, separate from the States' respective governing authorities, which allows the redistricting process to be conducted in an impartial and efficient manner by prioritizing individual community needs, by professionals who represent community interests, and;

**WHEREAS**, an Independent Redistricting Commission committed to drawing district maps in a public and transparent manner that will accurately and fairly represent the residents in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws and procedures is in the best interest of the citizens of DeKalb County and the State of Georgia;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE DEKALB COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY IN THE STATE OF GEORGIA, AS FOLLOWS:**

1. The Dekalb County Delegation of the General Assembly convene a study committee to evaluate the establishment of an Independent Redistricting Commission to conduct all Redistricting and Reapportionment requirements within the State of Georgia.
2. That the study committee review the attached Exhibit A – Washington Constitution Article 2 Section 43 – for potential options for improvement;
3. That the study committee review the attached Exhibit B – Montana Constitution Article 4 Section 14 – for potential options for improvement.
4. The Executive Assistant or designee deliver a copy of this Resolution to each member of the Georgia General Assembly representing a portion of DeKalb County.

**ADOPTED** by the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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**STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW**  
Presiding Officer  
Board of Commissioners  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**APPROVED** by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

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**MICHAEL L. THURMOND**  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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**BARBARA NORWOOD-SANDERS, CCC**  
Clerk to the Board of Commissioners and  
Chief Executive Officer  
DeKalb County, Georgia

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**VIVIANE H. ERNSTES**  
County Attorney