

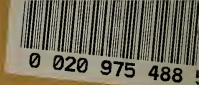
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THE LAW
FOR THE
**REDISTRICTING, MANAGEMENT
AND CONTROL**
OF THE
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OF ALABAMA



ISSUED BY
ISAAC W. HILL
SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATION

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IN EXCHANGE.

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To provide for the redistricting of the public schools of the State and for the management and control of the same.

Section 1.—Be it enacted by the Legislature of Alabama, That township lines for school purposes, in the State of Alabama, are hereby abolished; provided nothing herein contained shall be so construed as to deprive the inhabitants of any township in this State of the sixteenth section or any fund arising therefrom, for the purpose of selling and leasing the sixteenth section school lands of the several townships as provided by law there shall be three township trustees in each township to be appointed as now provided by law, the existing township trustees shall continue in office until the expiration of their terms of office for the purpose of selling and leasing such lands.

Sec. 2.—One of the county commissioners or a member of the County Board of Revenue to be selected by such commissioners or Board of Revenue, the County Superintendent of Education, and one of the County Surveyors to be named by the court of County Commissioners or Board of Revenue, in each of the several counties of the State, are hereby created the county redistricting board, whose duties shall be as hereinafter provided.

Sec. 3.—That on the first Monday in March, 1904, the county redistricting boards provided for in section two of this act, shall meet at the court house in their respective counties and organize by electing one of their number as chairman. The County Superintendent of Education shall be, by virtue of his office, Secretary of such

Board; a majority of the members of such board shall constitute a quorum.

Sec. 4.—As soon as practicable after organization the said county redistricting boards shall lay out and divide their respective counties into public school districts according to centres of population and natural barriers. Such districts shall be so arranged, if practicable, as to place a public school within two and one-half miles of each child within school age within such district; provided that no district shall be formed which contains less than fifteen children in the school age.

Sec. 5.—The work of establishing such districts as provided in this act, shall be completed not later than June 1st, 1904, within ten days after said work shall have been completed, the said several County Redistricting Boards shall make, in writing, an accurate description of each district so established, which descriptions they shall deposit with the Judge of Probate, whose duty it shall be to record the same in a substantially bound book, to be kept by him for this purpose in his office.

Sec. 6.—On the first Saturday in July, 1904, and each fourth year thereafter, the qualified electors of each public school district shall meet at the district public school house and elect from among the freeholders and householders who can read and write, residing in such districts, a local board of three district trustees whose duty shall be as hereinafter provided. Such district trustees shall hold office for the term of four years from the time of their election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

Sec. 7.—The trustees provided for in the last preceding section shall within ten days after their election meet at the public school district school house, or some place more convenient to all concerned, and shall organize, by

electing one of their number, chairman and another secretary.

Sec. 8.—The District Trustees shall, during the month of August, 1904, and in every even numbered year thereafter, make an enumeration of all the children within school age in their respective districts in accordance with the requirements of section 3573 of the Code of 1896, and report the same as herein provided to the County Superintendent of Education, who also shall, by the 15th day of said month, make a written report of such enumeration by numbered districts to the State Superintendent of Education, and it shall be the duty of the County Superintendent of Education to enumerate or cause to be enumerated all the children of school age in any township or townships in his county in which the sixteenth section interest exceeds the amount of per capita apportionment from the general fund, and report the same to the office of the State Superintendent of Education.

Sec. 9.—It shall be the duty of the said District Trustees to care for all school property, employ teachers for their school districts, such employment to be subject to the approval of the County Board of Education, to visit the schools within their respective districts, observe the management of the same, to make quarterly reports of the condition of such school to the County Superintendent of Education and to perform such other duties as may be required by the County Board of Education hereinafter provided for.

Sec. 10.—The chairman of the several Boards of District Trustees shall meet at the court house in their respective counties in the second Saturday in August after their election and every four years thereafter, and shall elect four County School trustees, who shall hold

office for the term of four years from the date of their election and until their successors are elected and qualified. Before entering upon the duties of office, they shall take the oath of office prescribed by the Constitution of the State. The County Superintendent of Education and said four County Trustees shall constitute the County Board of Education within their respective counties. The County Superintendent of Education shall be the Chief Executive Officer of said County Boards of Education, and shall see that all the rules, regulations and orders of said County Boards are enforced; provided, however, that no County Trustee shall, during his term of office, be eligible to election as a District Trustee.

Sec. 11.—That said County Board of Education shall have entire control of the public schools within their respective counties, unless otherwise provided by law. They shall make rules and regulations for the government of the schools, see that teachers perform their duties, and exercise such powers, consistent with the law, as in their judgment will best subserve the cause of education. The said Board shall have the right to acquire, purchase, lease, receive, hold, transmit and convey the title to real and personal property for school purposes. Said board of education shall by and in the name of the County Board of Education sue and be sued, contract and be contracted with; all contracts to be made after resolution adopted by said Board and spread on its minutes and signed by the President and Secretary, and all process shall be executed on the Secretary of said Board.

Sec. 12.—Whenever there shall have been established in any school district, a system of graded schools free to the children of school age, within such district for a period of not less than eight months in each year, the electors of such districts may increase the number of the

District Trustees to five and assume entire control of the public schools therein; provided, the trustees of such districts shall make all reports required by law to the County Board of Education.

Sec. 13.—Each member of the County Redistricting Boards named in section two of this act shall receive two dollars a day for each day in which he is actually employed in forming school districts under this act to be paid out of the County Treasury upon the written requisition of the President and Secretary of such Board; provided, that no member of said board shall receive pay for more than fifteen days, and provided, further, that the County Superintendent of Education shall receive no pay for serving on said board.

Sec. 14.—Each of the four members of the County Board of Education, provided for in Section 10 of this act shall receive from the public school funds of the county, to be disbursed by the County Superintendent of Education two dollars a day for each day's work devoted by him to the public schools; provided, he shall not receive pay for more than ten days in any one year. The County Superintendent of Education shall apportion among the several school districts the amount of compensation to be paid to the members of the County Board of Education and account for the same in like manner as provided for the compensation paid to teachers in such districts.

Sec. 15.—The County Superintendents of Education shall receive and, by and with the advice and consent of the County Board of Education and under its direction shall disburse all moneys appropriated and provided by law, or that may hereafter be provided for by law, either general or special, for the support of any and all public schools within their respective counties. For their com-

pensation, they shall receive four per centum on all State public moneys legally disbursed by them, not to exceed the sum of eighteen hundred dollars for any calendar year. For all moneys received and disbursed by them, the County Superintendents shall account to the State Superintendent of Education, as now provided by law.

Sec. 16.—The lines and boundaries of any school district may be changed by a vote of a majority of the County Board of Education, thirty days after due notice shall have been given by such board to the school trustees, and the people in the territory to be affected by the change and such change may add to or take from any district composed of an incorporated city or town such contiguous territory as such board may deem best; notice of the proposed change being given by three weekly publications in a newspaper published in said county, and in three public places by posting notices.

Sec. 17.—That any vacancy on the County Board of Education or on any District Board of Trustees, shall be filled for the unexpired term by the remaining members on said Board of Education or Board of Trustees as the case may be.

Sec. 18.—This bill shall not be held to affect any school contract or the conduct, management and control of public schools during the school year ending September 30th, 1904.

Sec. 19.—The provisions of this act shall not apply to any county heretofore districted by law and which has a special levy from the county for the support of the public schools or to school districts heretofore established by law.

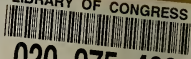
Sec. 20.—That each incorporated city or town in the State is hereby created a separate school district. In all municipalities where there is a Board of Education the

Board shall have full charge and control of such separate school districts and shall have and exercise all the powers and authority conferred by law upon township trustees. In municipalities where there is no such Board of Education, the powers and duties of Trustees shall devolve upon and be performed by the Mayor and Board of Aldermen, and all funds due such separate school districts shall be paid directly by the State Superintendent of Education to the Board of Education of such separate school districts, or to the Mayor and Board of Aldermen where there is no such Board of Education, and provided that nothing in this act contained shall be construed as in conflict with section 12 of this act.

Approved September 30, 1903.



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