

1 **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND CHAPTER 101 (GENERAL PROVISIONS AND COUNTY**
2 **GOVERNING AUTHORITY), ARTICLE II (COUNTY GOVERNING AUTHORITY),**
3 **DIVISION 2 (RULES OF ORDER AND PROCEDURE) OF THE FULTON COUNTY**
4 **CODE OF ORDINANCES TO MODIFY SECTION 101-66(b)(3) TO DISCONTINUE E-**
5 **MAILED PUBLIC COMMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

6
7 **WHEREAS**, in conformity with the Open Meetings Act, O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1 *et seq.*,
8 the Board of Commissioners enacted the Fulton County Board of Commissioners'
9 Meetings Organization and Procedural Rules ("Procedural Rules") at its Meeting on
10 January 19, 1994; and

11 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners' Procedural Rules are codified in Section
12 101-61 *et seq.* of the Fulton County Code; and

13 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners allows public participation at its meetings
14 in the form of public comments to provide members of the public with an opportunity to
15 address and share their concerns regarding matters affecting Fulton County, Georgia with
16 the Board of Commissioners; and

17 **WHEREAS**, the procedure for conducting public comments at meetings of the
18 Board of Commissioners is codified in Fulton County Code Section 101-66(b)(3); and

19 **WHEREAS**, on August 4, 2021, due to the ongoing COVID-19 public health
20 emergency, the Board of Commissioners amended Section 101-66(b)(3) through Item
21 No. 21-0578 to allow the public to submit comments via e-mail, among other things; and

22 **WHEREAS**, on January 16, 2024, the Board of Commissioners again amended
23 Section 101-66(b)(3) through Item No. 24-0020 to discontinue the reading of e-mailed
24 comments and to increase the time allotted for in-person and videoconference comments;
25 and

26 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners continues to offer multiple alternative
27 methods for public comment, including in-person or by videoconference; and

28 **WHEREAS**, the COVID-19 public health emergency which prompted the Board of
29 Commissioners to permit submission of public comments by e-mail has ended; and

30 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners no longer deems it necessary to receive
31 public comments by e-mail; and

32 **WHEREAS**, the Board of Commissioners has authority, pursuant to the
33 Constitution of the State of Georgia, Article 9, Sec. 2, ¶ 1(a), to adopt and amend
34 reasonable ordinances, resolutions, or regulations relating to its affairs for which no
35 provision has been made by general law and which is not inconsistent with the Georgia
36 Constitution or any local law applicable thereto.

37 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, that the Fulton County Board of
38 Commissioners hereby amends Section 101-66(b)(3) of the Fulton County Code of
39 Ordinances in substantially the form outlined in **Attachment A** hereto to strike the
40 provision permitting submission of public comment by e-mail.

41 **BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED**, that this Ordinance shall become effective when
42 passed and adopted, and that all ordinances and resolutions and parts of ordinances and
43 resolutions in conflict with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict.

44 **SO PASSED AND ADOPTED**, this _____ day of _____, 2025.

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46 **FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF**
47 **COMMISSIONERS**

48 **Sponsored by:**

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50 _____
51 Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)

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ATTEST:

Tonya R. Grier
Clerk to the Commission

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Y. Soo Jo
County Attorney