

Senate Bill 2EX

By: Senator Echols of the 49th, Kennedy of the 18th, Gooch of the 51st, Robertson of the 29th, Brass of the 28th and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To provide for the composition and number of state senatorial districts; to provide for a short  
2 title; to provide for the contingent nature of this Act and the circumstances under which it  
3 shall or shall not apply, according to the enforceability of prior provisions under federal law;  
4 to provide for the continuation of present Senators; to provide an effective date; to repeal  
5 conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 This Act shall be known and may be cited as the "Georgia Senate Redistricting Act of 2023."

9 **SECTION 2.**

10 (a) As used in this Act, the term "2021 Senate redistricting plan" means the districts for  
11 the Georgia State Senate as described in the Georgia Senate Redistricting Act of 2021,  
12 approved December 30, 2021 (Ga. L. 2021, Ex. Sess., p. 173).

13 (b) If, as of 60 days prior to the first day of qualifying for nomination or election to the  
14 entire Georgia State Senate in 2024 or any future year, the 2021 Senate redistricting plan  
15 may lawfully be implemented pursuant to court order or otherwise, then qualifying for the

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16 Georgia State Senate in 2024 or such future year and the ensuing elections shall be  
17 conducted according to the 2021 Senate redistricting plan; and this Act shall not apply to  
18 such qualifying or elections or otherwise be of any further force or effect.

19 (c) If, as of 60 days prior to the first day of qualifying for nomination or election to the  
20 entire Georgia State Senate in 2024 or any future year, the 2021 Senate redistricting plan  
21 may not lawfully be implemented, then qualifying for the Georgia State Senate in 2024 or  
22 such future year and the ensuing elections shall be conducted according to the Senate  
23 redistricting plan provided for in this Act.

24 (d) Notwithstanding any provisions of subsections (b) or (c) of this section to the contrary,  
25 any special election to fill a vacancy in the General Assembly occurring after enactment  
26 of this Act shall use the same Georgia State Senate redistricting plan in place during the  
27 immediately preceding regular election. Except for the initial adoption of the Senate  
28 redistricting plan provided for in Section 3 of this Act, it is the intention of the General  
29 Assembly that any alteration or amendment to the composition of Senate districts provided  
30 for in this Act shall only apply to subsequent bienniums of the General Assembly and that  
31 the Senate redistricting plan used for the regular election of the entire Senate shall apply  
32 for the entire biennium of the General Assembly elected at such regular election.

33 (e) This Act does not repeal or amend the provisions of the Georgia Senate Redistricting  
34 Act of 2021 or the 2021 Senate redistricting plan; and those provisions are merely  
35 suspended pending a final determination of their enforceability by the federal judiciary.

36 **SECTION 3.**

37 (a) Subject to the provisions of Section 2 of this Act, for the purpose of electing members  
38 of the Senate, the State of Georgia is divided into 56 senatorial districts. Such senatorial  
39 districts shall be and correspond to those 56 numbered districts described in Appendix A,  
40 incorporated into and made a part of this Act and further identified as "User: TBD Plan  
41 Name: TBD Plan Type: Senate".

42 (b) For the purposes of such plan:

43 (1) The term "VTD" shall mean and describe the same geographical boundaries as  
44 provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United States decennial census  
45 of 2020 for the State of Georgia. The separate numeric designations in a district  
46 description which are underneath a "VTD" heading shall mean and describe individual  
47 Blocks within a VTD as provided in the report of the Bureau of the Census for the United  
48 States decennial census of 2020 for the State of Georgia; and

49 (2) Whenever the description of any senatorial district refers to a named county without  
50 any additional VTD, it shall mean the geographical boundaries of that county as shown  
51 on the census maps for the United States decennial census of 2020 for the State of  
52 Georgia.

53 (c) Any part of the State of Georgia which is not included in any senatorial district  
54 described in subsection (a) of this section shall be included within that district contiguous  
55 to such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial  
56 census of 2020 for the State of Georgia.

57 (d) Any part of the State of Georgia which is described in subsection (a) of this section as  
58 being included in a particular senatorial district shall nevertheless not be included within  
59 such senatorial district if such part is not contiguous to such senatorial district. Such  
60 noncontiguous part shall instead be included within that senatorial district contiguous to  
61 such part which contains the least population according to the United States decennial  
62 census of 2020 for the State of Georgia.

63 (e) The members of the Senate elected in 2022 shall continue to serve for the terms of  
64 office to which they were elected.

65 (f) Subject to Section 2 of this Act, any special election to fill a vacancy in the 157th  
66 General Assembly shall use the composition of districts provided for in this Act.

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**SECTION 4.**

68 Subject to the provisions of Section 2 of this Act, this Act shall become effective upon its  
69 approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law without such approval and shall apply  
70 to future elections for the Georgia State Senate to the extent provided for in Section 2 of this  
71 Act.

72

**SECTION 5.**

73 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.

74

APPENDIX A

75 User: TBD

76 Plan Name: TBD

77 Plan Type: Senate