SENATE BILL No. 136

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 2-1.5; IC 2-2.1-1-2.7; IC 2-5-39; IC 3-3; IC 3-8; IC 35-52-2.

Synopsis: Redistricting. Establishes a redistricting commission (commission) to create, hold hearings on, take public comment about, and recommend plans to redraw general assembly districts and congressional districts. Requires the legislative services agency (agency) to provide staff and administrative services to the commission. Establishes standards to govern the commission and the agency in the creation of redistricting plans. Provides that if the Constitution of the State of Indiana does not require the general assembly to establish legislative districts, the commission's recommendations for legislative plans define those districts. Provides that if the Constitution of the State of Indiana requires the general assembly to establish the districts, the general assembly shall meet and enact redistricting plans before October 1 of a redistricting year. Authorizes the general assembly to convene in a session to act on redistricting bills at times other than the times the general assembly is currently authorized to meet. Provides that a person employed by the agency or under contract with the agency may not knowingly or intentionally use political data in the creation or evaluation of a redistricting plan. Provides that a person may not knowingly or intentionally solicit, aid, induce, or cause a person employed by the agency or under contract with the agency to use political data in the creation or evaluation of a redistricting plan. Makes a violation of these restrictions a Level 6 felony. Repeals the current law relating to congressional redistricting by a commission when the general assembly fails to enact a congressional redistricting plan. Appropriates from the state general fund the amounts necessary to pay the expenses of implementing the statute. Repeals the statute establishing the special interim study committee on redistricting.

Effective: July 1, 2017.

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January 4, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Elections.



First Regular Session 120th General Assembly (2017)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2016 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 136

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning the general assembly and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1	SECTION 1. IC 2-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A
2	NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
3	2017]:
4	ARTICLE 1.5. REDISTRICTING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
5	AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS
6	Chapter 1. Definitions
7	Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this
8	article.
9	Sec. 2. "Agency" refers to the legislative services agency
0	established under IC 2-5-1.1-7.
1	Sec. 3. "Appointing authority" refers to any of the following:
2	(1) The speaker of the house of representatives.
3	(2) The minority leader of the house of representatives.
4	(3) The president pro tempore of the senate.
5	(4) The minority leader of the senate.
6	Sec. 4. "Bureau" refers to the United States Department of
7	Commerce, Bureau of the Census.



1	Sec. 5. "Census data" means the population data that the
2	bureau is required to provide to the state under 13 U.S.C. 141.
3	Sec. 6. "Census year" refers to the year in which a federal
4	decennial census is conducted.
5	Sec. 7. "Commission" refers to the redistricting commission
6	established by IC 2-1.5-2-1.
7	Sec. 8. "Federal decennial census" refers to a federal decennial
8	census conducted under 13 U.S.C. 141.
9	Sec. 9. "House of representatives" refers to the house of
0	representatives of the general assembly.
1	Sec. 10. "Ideal district population" for a plan refers to the
12	number equal to the quotient of the following, rounded to the
13	nearest whole number:
14	(1) The numerator is the population of Indiana as reported by
15	the most recent federal decennial census.
16	(2) The denominator is the number of districts required by
17	this article for the plan.
18	Sec. 11. (a) "Plan" refers to any of the following:
19	(1) A plan for districts for the house of representatives.
20	(2) A plan for districts for the senate.
21	(3) A plan for congressional districts.
22	(b) A plan includes maps and written descriptions of the maps
23	that define all the districts that a plan is required to have under
24	this article.
25	Sec. 12. "Political data" refers only to the following:
26	(1) Data relating to party registration.
27	(2) Data relating to voting history.
28	(3) Election returns.
29	Sec. 13. "Political subdivision" means a city, county, town, or
30	township.
31	Sec. 14. "Redistricting year" refers to the year immediately
32	following a census year.
33	Sec. 15. "Senate" refers to the senate of the general assembly.
34	Chapter 2. Redistricting Commission
35	Sec. 1. A redistricting commission consisting of nine (9)
36	members is established as provided in this chapter.
37	Sec. 2. (a) Not later than January 15 of a redistricting year, each
38	of the appointing authorities shall do the following:
39	(1) Appoint two (2) individuals to be commission members.
10	(2) Certify to the executive director of the agency the
11	appointment of the individuals to the commission.
12	Not more than one (1) member appointed under this subsection



1	may reside in any particular congressional district.
2	(b) Not later than February 15 of a redistricting year, the
3	members appointed under subsection (a) shall meet and appoint a
4	ninth individual to be the commission's chair.
5	(c) If the commission does not appoint an individual as the
6	commission's chair before March 1 of a redistricting year, the chief
7	justice of the supreme court shall appoint an individual to be the
8	commission's chair. The chief justice shall:
9	(1) make the appointment before March 15 of the redistricting
0	year; and
1	(2) certify the appointment to the executive director of the
2	agency.
3	(d) The individual appointed commission chair:
4	(1) must be a retired judge;
5	(2) may not be a member appointed under subsection (a); and
6	(3) may reside in any congressional district;
7	but is otherwise subject to the same qualifications set forth in this
8	chapter for the other commission members.
9	Sec. 3. To serve on the commission, an individual must be a
0.0	resident of Indiana.
1	Sec. 4. An individual may not serve on the commission if the
22	individual has been any of the following at any time less than six (6)
23	years before the individual's appointment to the commission:
.4	(1) A member of the general assembly or the Congress of the
25 26	United States.
26	(2) A candidate for election to the general assembly or the
27	Congress of the United States.
28	(3) The holder of a state office (as defined in IC 3-5-2-48).
.9	(4) An appointed public official.
0	(5) The chairman or treasurer of a candidate's committee of
1	a candidate for election to the general assembly or the
2	Congress of the United States as required by IC 3-9-1 or
3	federal law.
4	(6) An individual registered as a lobbyist under IC 2-7.
5	Sec. 5. (a) Before undertaking duties as a commission member,
6	an individual appointed under section 2 or 8 of this chapter must
7	do the following:
8	(1) Take an oath of office.
9	(2) Make an affirmation that the individual will:
0	(A) apply the provisions of this article in an honest and
-1	independent manner; and
-2	(B) uphold public confidence in the integrity of the



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1	redistricting process.
2 3	(3) Make a written pledge that the individual will not be a candidate for:
<i>3</i>	
5	(A) election to the general assembly; or
<i>5</i>	(B) selection to fill a vacancy in the general assembly;
7	at any time before the second election for members of the
8	general assembly after the individual's appointment to the commission.
9	(b) A member's oath, affirmation, and pledge shall be filed with
10	the agency.
11	Sec. 6. An individual serves as a commission member until the
12	earlier of the following:
13	(1) The individual vacates the individual's membership on the
14	commission.
15	(2) The appointment of a new commission under this chapter
16	following a federal decennial census.
17	Sec. 7. A commission member may be removed from office for
18	substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, or inability
19	to discharge the duties of office as provided by law for the removal
20	of other public officers.
21	Sec. 8. (a) If the position of commission chair becomes vacant,
22	the commission shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy not
23	later than fifteen (15) days after the vacancy occurs. If the
24	commission does not make the appointment as provided in this
25	subsection, the chief justice of the supreme court shall:
26	(1) make the appointment not later than thirty (30) days after
27	the vacancy occurs; and
28	(2) certify the appointment to the executive director of the
29	agency.
30	(b) If a vacancy other than a vacancy described in subsection (a)
31	occurs on the commission, the leader of the caucus whose leader
32	appointed the member whose position is vacant shall appoint an
33	individual to fill the vacancy not later than fifteen (15) days after
34	the vacancy occurs.
35	Sec. 9. The affirmative vote of at least five (5) commission
36	members is necessary for the commission to take official action.
37	Sec. 10. Each commission member is entitled to receive the same
38	per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to members of the
39	general assembly serving on interim study committees established
40	by the legislative council.
41	Sec. 11. The agency shall provide the commission with staff and



administrative services.

1	Sec. 12. The amounts necessary to pay the expenses of the
2	commission and the agency to implement this article are
3	continuously appropriated to the agency from the state general
4	fund.
5	Chapter 3. Redistricting Procedure
6	Sec. 1. (a) Before January 1 of a redistricting year, the agency
7	shall acquire any hardware, software, and supplies necessary to
8	assist the commission in the performance of the commission's
9	duties under this article.
10	(b) At any time, the agency may acquire additional hardware,
11	software, and supplies the executive director of the agency
12	considers necessary to assist the commission in the performance of
13	the commission's duties under this article.
14	Sec. 2. Not later than March 15 of a redistricting year, the
15	commission's chair shall convene the commission to do the
16	following:
17	(1) Organize the commission.
18	(2) Receive reports from the agency concerning the following:
19	(A) Information relating to the receipt of census data from
20	the bureau.
21	(B) The readiness of the agency to assist the commission's
22	work.
23	(C) Any other matter on which a report is requested by the
24	commission.
25	(3) Provide initial instructions to the agency regarding the
26	commission's work.
27	(4) Schedule hearings required or permitted under section 5
28	of this chapter.
29	(5) Schedule other meetings the commission considers
30	necessary.
31	(6) Schedule the receipt of maps from the public.
32	Sec. 3. If the agency must make a decision on a question
33	concerning redistricting for which no clearly applicable provision
34	of this article or instruction of the commission provides an answer,
35	the executive director of the agency shall submit a written request
36	to the commission for direction.
37	Sec. 4. (a) The agency shall do the following:
38	(1) Create maps of legislative district plans and congressional
39	district plans that conform to this article and the
40	commission's instructions.
41	(2) Prepare written descriptions of the maps created under
42	subdivision (1).



(3) Evaluate maps submitted by the public for conformance
with the standards set forth in IC 2-1.5-4.
(b) The agency shall produce as many different plans as the
commission instructs:
(1) not earlier than May 1 of a redistricting year; and
(2) not later than May 15 of the redistricting year.
(c) The agency shall publish the maps and descriptions:
(1) prepared for the commission by the agency; and
(2) submitted to the commission from the public;
as directed by the commission not later than May 15 of a
redistricting year.
Sec. 5. (a) As directed by the commission, the agency shall
receive for the commission written public comments regarding the
plans after publication of the plans.
(b) Not later than June 30 of a redistricting year, the
commission shall conduct at least one (1) public hearing in each of
the following regions of Indiana, as determined by the commission:
(1) Northern Indiana.
(2) Central Indiana.
(3) Southern Indiana.
(c) The commission may hold hearings in addition to the
hearings required by subsection (b).
(d) The commission shall do the following at any hearings held
under this section:
(1) Explain the redistricting procedure.
(2) Present the plans prepared for the commission by the
agency.
(3) Have available the plans submitted by the public and the
agency's evaluation of those plans.
(4) Hear public comments and suggestions.
(e) The commission may take other actions the commission
considers appropriate to do the following:
(1) Explain the redistricting procedure or the plans to the
public.
(2) Receive public comments and suggestions.
Sec. 6. (a) Not later than August 1 of a redistricting year, the
commission shall meet to adopt a report to the general assembly.
The report must include the following:
(1) A summary of the commission's and the agency's
preparation for the commission's work.
(2) A description of the hearings held under section 5 of this



chapter.

1	(3) A summary of the public comments and suggestions
2	received in writing and at the hearings.
3	(4) The commission's recommendation to the general
4	assembly for each of the following:
5	(A) A district plan for the house of representatives.
6	(B) A district plan for the senate.
7	(C) A congressional district plan.
8	(5) Maps for each plan, including both a statewide map and a
9	map for each district.
10	(6) A bill that would enact each of the plans. This subdivision
11	applies only if the Constitution of the State of Indiana
12	requires the general assembly to establish legislative districts.
13	(b) The commission shall recommend to the general assembly
14	the plan that the commission considers the best in meeting the
15	standards set forth in IC 2-1.5-4.
16	(c) The commission may include any other information in the
17	report that the commission considers useful to explain the
18	commission's work or recommendations.
19	(d) The report required by this section must be submitted to the
20	legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
21	Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply if the Constitution of the
22	State of Indiana requires the general assembly to establish
23	legislative districts.
24	(b) The agency shall file the commission's report under section
25	6 of this chapter with the secretary of state not later than August
26	15 of a redistricting year.
27	(c) The commission's recommendations become the plans for the
28	districts for the house of representatives, for the senate, and for
29	congressional districts, beginning with the first general election
30	held after the redistricting year.
31	Chapter 4. Redistricting Standards
32	Sec. 1. Districts created for the house of representatives, the
33	senate, and the United States House of Representatives must
34	comply with the standards of this chapter.
35	Sec. 2. (a) A plan for house of representatives districts must
36	provide for one hundred (100) districts.
37	(b) A plan for senate districts must provide for fifty (50)
38	districts.
39	(c) A plan for congressional districts must provide for as many
40	districts as are allocated to Indiana under 2 U.S.C. 2a.
41	Sec. 3. Districts shall be established on the basis of population.

Sec. 4. Each district shall be represented by one (1) individual.



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1	Sec. 5. (a) Each house of representatives district must be
2	included entirely within one (1) senate district.
3	(b) Each senate district must consist of two (2) house of
4	representatives districts and no other territory.
5	Sec. 6. (a) The population of a house of representatives district
6	or a senate district may not deviate from the ideal district
7	population by more than five percent (5%) of the ideal district
8	population.
9	(b) When the percentage of deviation from the ideal district
0	population of the district with the smallest population under the
1	plan is added to the percentage of deviation from the ideal district
2	population of the district with the largest population under the
3	plan, the total percentage of deviation under the plan may not
4	exceed ten percent (10%).
5	Sec. 7. (a) A congressional district plan must provide for
6	districts that are as nearly equal in population as is practicable.
7	However, a congressional district plan may provide for districts
8	that are not equal in population if the resulting plan:
9	(1) produces more compact congressional districts; or
0.0	(2) better respects the boundaries of political subdivisions as
21	required by this chapter;
.2	than a plan with districts that have equal population.
.3	(b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), when the percentage of
.4	deviation from the ideal district population in the congressional
25	district with the smallest population under the plan is added to the
26	percentage of deviation from the ideal district population in the
27	congressional district with the largest population under the plan,
28	the total percentage of deviation under the plan may not exceed
.9	thirty-five hundredths of one percent (0.35%).
0	Sec. 8. (a) Districts must be composed of contiguous territory.
1	(b) For purposes of this section, areas that meet only at the point
2	of adjoining corners are not considered contiguous.
3	Sec. 9. (a) Districts must be as compact as possible.
4	(b) The compactness of a district shall be determined by
5	measuring the total length of the boundary of the district.
6	(c) The compactness of a plan shall be determined by adding the
7	compactness measures of all the districts in the plan as determined
8	under subsection (b).
9	(d) A plan is considered more compact than another plan if, as
-0	determined under subsection (c), the compactness measure of the
-1	plan is less than the compactness measure of the other plan.
-2	Sec. 10. (a) To the extent possible consistent with sections 3



through 9 of this chapter, the boundaries of the districts of a plan
must coincide with the boundaries of Indiana political subdivisions
as follows:

- (1) The plan must minimize the number of counties divided among more than one (1) district. If it is necessary to divide counties among districts, a more populous county shall be divided before a less populous county is divided.
- (2) The plan must minimize the number of municipalities divided among more than one (1) district. If it is necessary to divide municipalities among districts, a more populous municipality shall be divided before a less populous municipality is divided. This requirement does not apply to a district boundary drawn along a county line that passes through a municipality that lies in more than one (1) county.
- (3) The plan must minimize the number of townships divided among more than one (1) district. If it is necessary to divide townships among districts, a more populous township shall be divided before a less populous township is divided.
- (4) The plan must minimize the number of school corporations divided among more than one (1) district. If it is necessary to divide school corporations among districts, a more populous school corporation shall be divided before a less populous school corporation is divided.
- (5) The plan may not divide a precinct (as the precinct exists on April 1 of the redistricting year).
- (b) To the extent that complying with the standards for respecting the boundaries of political subdivisions under this section conflicts with the compactness standards of this chapter, the requirements of this section prevail over the compactness standards.
- Sec. 11. The following information may not be considered in drawing districts:
 - (1) The residence address of any individual.
 - (2) Data concerning the voting history of any individual, including whether the individual requested a political party's ballot in a primary election.
 - (3) Election returns.
- Sec. 12. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, when evaluating plans for recommendation, the commission shall consider the effect that a plan has on language minority groups and racial minority groups to ensure compliance with the federal Voting Rights Act and other relevant federal law.



1	Chapter 5. Offenses
2	Sec. 1. A person:
3	(1) employed by the agency; or
4	(2) working under a contract with the agency;
5	who knowingly or intentionally uses political data in the creation
6	or evaluation of a plan under this article commits corrupt
7	redistricting, a Level 6 felony.
8	Sec. 2. A person who knowingly or intentionally solicits, aids,
9	induces, or causes a person:
0	(1) employed by the agency; or
1	(2) working under a contract with the agency;
2	to use political data in the creation or evaluation of a plan under
3	this article commits solicitation of corrupt redistricting, a Level 6
4	felony.
5	SECTION 2. IC 2-2.1-1-2.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
6	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
7	1,2017]: Sec. 2.7. (a) This section applies only if the Constitution of
8	the State of Indiana requires the general assembly to establish
9	legislative districts.
0.	(b) The definitions in IC 2-1.5-1 apply throughout this section.
21	(c) Before October 1 of a redistricting year, the general
22	assembly shall convene and enact bills to establish the following:
23	(1) House of representatives districts.
.4	(2) Senate districts.
25	(3) Congressional districts.
26	(d) A bill to enact a redistricting plan recommended by the
27	redistricting commission under IC 2-1.5-3 must be introduced in
28	and considered by each house of the general assembly, without
.9	amendment, except amendments of a technical nature.
0	(e) Unless the general assembly has enacted bills described in
1	subsection (c) at:
2	(1) a session convened under another section of this chapter;
3	or
4	(2) a special session called by the governor;
5	the general assembly may not consider a matter that is not relevant
6	to the legislation described in subsection (c) during a session
7	convened under this section.
8	SECTION 3. IC 2-5-39 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
9	2017]. (Special Interim Study Committee on Redistricting).
0	SECTION 4. IC 3-3-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017].
-1	(Redistricting Commission).
-2	SECTION 5. IC 3-3-5-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.215-2011,



1	SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
2	JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 10. Beginning November 6, 2012, the 2001
3	Congressional District Plan:
4	(1) adopted by the redistricting commission under IC 3-3-2
5	(repealed); and
6	(2) published in the governor's executive order 01-11 in the
7	Indiana Register at 24 IR 3293-3298;
8	is void.
9	SECTION 6. IC 3-8-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2015,
0	SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
1	JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 8. (a) A declaration of candidacy for the office of
2	United States Senator or for the office of governor must be
3	accompanied by a petition signed by at least four thousand five
4	hundred (4,500) voters of the state, including at least five hundred
5	(500) voters from each congressional district.
6	(b) Each petition must contain the following:
7	(1) The signature of each petitioner.
8	(2) The name of each petitioner legibly printed.
9	(3) The residence address of each petitioner as set forth on the
0.	petitioner's voter registration record.
21	(c) Except as provided in this subsection, the signature, printed
22	name, and residence address of the petitioner must be made in writing
23	by the petitioner. If a petitioner with a disability is unable to write this
23 24	information on the petition, the petitioner may authorize an individual
25	to do so on the petitioner's behalf. The individual acting under this
25 26	subsection shall execute an affidavit of assistance for each such
27	petitioner, in a form prescribed by the election division. The form must
28	set forth the name and address of the individual providing assistance,
.9	and the date the individual provided the assistance. The form must be
0	submitted with the petition.
1	(d) This subsection applies to a petition filed during the period:
2	(1) beginning on the date that a congressional district plan has
3	been adopted under IC 3-3; IC 2-1.5; and
4	(2) ending on the date that the part of the act or order issued under
5	IC 3-3-2 establishing the previous congressional district plan is
6	repealed or superseded.
7	The petition must be signed by at least four thousand five hundred
8	(4,500) voters of Indiana, including at least five hundred (500) voters
9	from each congressional district created by the most recent
-0	congressional district plan adopted under IC 3-3. IC 2-1.5.
-1	SECTION 7. IC 3-8-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.169-2015,
2	SECTION 57 IS AMENDED TO DEAD AS FOLLOWS (EFFECTIVE



- JULY 1, 2017]: Sec. 2. (a) A request filed under section 1 of this chapter must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least four thousand five hundred (4,500) voters of the state, including at least five hundred (500) voters from each congressional district.
 - (b) Each petition must contain the following:
 - (1) The signature of each petitioner.

- (2) The name of each petitioner legibly printed.
- (3) The residence address of each petitioner as set forth on the petitioner's voter registration record.
- (c) Except as provided in this subsection, the signature, printed name, and residence address of the petitioner must be made in writing by the petitioner. If a petitioner with a disability is unable to write this information on the petition, the petitioner may authorize an individual to do so on the petitioner's behalf. The individual acting under this subsection shall execute an affidavit of assistance for each such petitioner, in a form prescribed by the election division. The form must set forth the name and address of the individual providing assistance, and the date the individual provided the assistance. The form must be submitted with the petition.
 - (d) This subsection applies to a petition filed during the period:
 - (1) beginning on the date that a congressional district plan has been adopted under IC 3-3; **IC 2-1.5;** and
 - (2) ending on the date that the part of the act or order issued under IC 3-3-2 establishing the previous congressional district plan is repealed or superseded.

The petition must be signed by at least four thousand five hundred (4,500) voters of Indiana, including at least five hundred (500) voters from each congressional district created by the most recent congressional district plan adopted under IC 3-3. IC 2-1.5.

SECTION 8. IC 35-52-2-0.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: **Sec. 0.5. IC 2-1.5-5-1 defines a crime concerning redistricting.**

SECTION 9. IC 35-52-2-0.6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2017]: **Sec. 0.6. IC 2-1.5-5-2 defines a crime concerning redistricting.**

