



**SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION No. _____**

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

Citations Affected: Articles 2 and 4 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana.

Synopsis: Election of state and federal legislators. Repeals the constitutional provision for drawing legislative districts by the general assembly. Requires the general assembly to establish an independent redistricting commission to draw congressional and legislative districts. Establishes standards for drawing Indiana congressional districts and Indiana legislative districts. Establishes term limits for members of the general assembly. This proposed amendment has not been previously agreed to by a general assembly.

Effective: This proposed amendment must be agreed to by two consecutive general assemblies and ratified by a majority of the state's voters voting on the question to be effective.

Qaddoura

_____, read first time and referred to Committee on _____



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 2023 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION



A JOINT RESOLUTION proposing an amendment to Articles 2 and 4 of the Constitution of the State of Indiana concerning elections.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the
- 2 State of Indiana is proposed and agreed to by this, the One Hundred
- 3 Twenty-Third General Assembly of the State of Indiana, and is referred
- 4 to the next General Assembly for reconsideration and agreement.
- 5 SECTION 2. ARTICLE 2 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF THE
- 6 STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED BY ADDING A **NEW**
- 7 SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS: **Section 15. (a) The following**
- 8 **apply to a redistricting plan for Indiana congressional districts:**
- 9 **(1) A redistricting plan and any individual district may not be**
- 10 **drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or**
- 11 **an incumbent.**
- 12 **(2) A redistricting plan and any individual district may not be**
- 13 **drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the**



1 equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to
 2 participate in the political process or to diminish their ability
 3 to elect representatives of their choice.

4 **The order in which the standards of this subsection are stated do**
 5 **not establish the priority of a single standard over the other**
 6 **standards stated in this subsection.**

7 **(b) Each of the following apply to the districts of a redistricting**
 8 **plan for Indiana congressional districts:**

9 **(1) The territory in each district must be contiguous.**

10 **(2) The districts of a redistricting plan must be as nearly equal**
 11 **in population as is practicable.**

12 **(3) The districts of a redistricting plan must, where feasible,**
 13 **utilize existing political and geographical boundaries.**

14 **The order in which the standards of this subsection are stated do**
 15 **not establish the priority of a single standard over the other**
 16 **standards stated in this subsection.**

17 SECTION 3. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION
 18 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 19 FOLLOWS: Section 3. **(a)** Senators shall be elected for the term of four
 20 years, and Representatives for the term of two years, from the day next
 21 after their general election. One half of the Senators, as nearly as
 22 possible, shall be elected biennially.

23 **(b) An individual may not be a candidate for the office of**
 24 **Senator or Representative in the General Assembly if, at the**
 25 **expiration of the term to which the individual would be elected, the**
 26 **sum of:**

27 **(1) the number of years the individual has served as a Senator**
 28 **in the General Assembly; and**

29 **(2) the number of years the individual has served as a**
 30 **Representative in the General Assembly;**

31 **would be greater than sixteen (16) years.**

32 SECTION 4. ARTICLE 4, SECTION 5 OF THE CONSTITUTION
 33 OF THE STATE OF INDIANA IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 34 FOLLOWS: Section 5. **(a)** The General Assembly elected during the
 35 year in which a federal decennial census is taken shall fix by law the
 36 number of Senators and Representatives. ~~and apportion them among~~
 37 ~~districts according to the number of inhabitants in each district, as~~
 38 ~~revealed by that federal decennial census.~~

39 **(b) Not later than July 1, 2027, the General Assembly shall**
 40 **establish by law an independent redistricting commission to draw**
 41 **the congressional and legislative districts for the state. The**
 42 **redistricting commission shall be politically balanced and**



1 representative of Indiana voters. The redistricting commission
2 shall conduct the redistricting process in an open and transparent
3 manner and shall not favor any individual or political party.

4 (c) The following apply to a redistricting plan for Senate
5 districts and to a redistricting plan for House of Representatives
6 districts:

7 (1) A redistricting plan and any individual district may not be
8 drawn with the intent to favor or disfavor a political party or
9 an incumbent.

10 (2) A redistricting plan and any individual district may not be
11 drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the
12 equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to
13 participate in the political process or to diminish their ability
14 to elect representatives of their choice.

15 The order in which the standards of this subsection are stated do
16 not establish the priority of a single standard over the other
17 standards stated in this subsection.

18 (d) Each of the following apply to the districts of a redistricting
19 plan for Senate districts and to the districts of a redistricting plan
20 for House of Representatives districts:

21 (1) The territory in each district shall must be contiguous.

22 (2) The districts of a redistricting plan must be as nearly equal
23 in population as is practicable.

24 (3) The districts of a redistricting plan must, where feasible,
25 utilize existing political and geographical boundaries.

26 The order in which the standards of this subsection are stated do
27 not establish the priority of a single standard over the other
28 standards stated in this subsection.

