

1 AN ACT relating to election districts.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 5 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 *As used in Sections 1 to 4 of this Act:*

6 *(1) "Commission" means the Legislative Advisory Reapportionment and*
7 *Redistricting Commission;*

8 *(2) "Population" means the most recent United States Census data collected under*
9 *Pub. L. No. 94-171;*

10 *(3) "Reapportionment" means the division of a given number of elected seats among*
11 *established political subdivisions in accordance with an existing plan or formula;*
12 *and*

13 *(4) "Redistricting" means the drawing of boundary lines for election districts in*
14 *order to achieve, as nearly as possible, equal population among the election*
15 *districts.*

16 ➔SECTION 2. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 5 IS CREATED TO
17 READ AS FOLLOWS:

18 *(1) The Legislative Advisory Reapportionment and Redistricting Commission is*
19 *hereby created, consisting of eleven (11) members. Six (6) members of the*
20 *commission shall be elected, one (1) from each of the six (6) United States*
21 *congressional districts. The other members of the commission shall be as follows:*

22 *(a) One (1) member appointed by the President of the Senate;*

23 *(b) One (1) member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;*

24 *(c) One (1) member appointed by the Minority Leadership in the Senate;*

25 *(d) One (1) member appointed by the Minority Leadership in the House of*
26 *Representatives; and*

27 *(e) The Chief Justice of the Kentucky Supreme Court or the Chief Justice's*

1 designee.

2 (2) Beginning in 2020 and every ten (10) years thereafter, the members of the
3 commission from the six (6) congressional districts shall be elected in accordance
4 with the procedures set forth in KRS Chapter 118A at the regular election in
5 even-numbered years. The names of candidates shall be placed on the voting
6 machine in a separate column or columns or in a separate line or lines and
7 identified by the words "Ballot for Legislative Advisory Reapportionment and
8 Redistricting Commission." The term of office of members of the commission
9 shall begin upon the first day of January of the year succeeding their election,
10 and no reference shall be made to political affiliation in the election of the
11 members of the commission. The President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
12 House shall appoint a new member to fill any vacancy which may occur between
13 election cycles from the congressional district in which there is a vacancy.

14 (3) Appointed members of the commission shall first be appointed no later than
15 December 1, 2020, and thereafter members shall be appointed decennially no
16 later than December 1 of each decennial year. The appointing authority of each
17 commission member as established in subsection (1) of this section shall fill any
18 vacancy.

19 (4) Appointed or elected members of the commission shall hold office for a term of
20 four (4) years.

21 (5) The commission shall be attached to the Legislative Research Commission for
22 administrative and budgetary purposes.

23 (6) Members of the commission shall receive per diem compensation as determined
24 by the Legislative Research Commission.

25 (7) The chair of the commission shall be elected by the membership of the
26 commission.

27 (8) The commission shall have the authority to:

- 1 (a) Contract for such expert services as may be necessary to carry out its duties;
2 (b) With approval of the Legislative Research Commission, hold public
3 hearings in any town in the Commonwealth to obtain information relevant
4 to reapportionment and redistricting of the General Assembly. Public
5 hearings for all other apportionment and redistricting duties shall be held
6 in the state capital; and
7 (c) Hire administrative staff to assist in its duties.

- 8 (9) The commission shall be subject to the provisions of KRS 7.505, 61.800 to 61.850,
9 and 61.870 to 61.884.

10 ➔SECTION 3. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 5 IS CREATED TO
11 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 12 (1) The duties of the commission shall include the development of a proposal for the
13 reapportionment and redistricting of state legislative districts and United States
14 congressional districts. The commission shall also be responsible for developing a
15 proposal for reapportionment and redistricting of the Supreme Court districts in
16 the Commonwealth when called upon to do so.

- 17 (2) The commission shall reapportion and redistrict districts based on population
18 and shall divide the state into:

- 19 (a) State legislative districts composed of thirty-eight (38) senatorial districts
20 and one hundred (100) representative districts;

- 21 (b) Seven (7) Supreme Court districts; and

- 22 (c) United States congressional districts based on the number of representatives
23 allocated to the Commonwealth.

- 24 (3) The standard for creating districts for the election of members to the General
25 Assembly shall be in accordance with Section 33 of the Constitution of Kentucky
26 and consistent with the following policies insofar as practicable:

- 27 (a) To form representative and senatorial districts with minimum percentages

1 of deviation;

2 (b) To preserve existing political subdivision lines;

3 (c) To recognize and maintain patterns of geography, social interaction, trade,
4 political ties, and common interest;

5 (d) To create compact districts; and

6 (e) To consider incumbencies.

7 (4) The standard for creating districts for the election of members to the United
8 States Congress shall be in accordance with Article 1 of the United States
9 Constitution, Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and 52 U.S.C. secs.
10 10301 to 10314 as amended, and consistent with the following policies insofar as
11 practicable:

12 (a) To form congressional districts with minimum percentages of deviation to
13 reflect the concept of "one person one vote";

14 (b) To create districts composed of contiguous geography;

15 (c) To preserve communities of interest where such efforts do not violate other
16 stated criteria;

17 (d) To use counties as district building blocks where possible, and to the extent
18 consistent with other aspects of these criteria, recognizing that some
19 counties may of necessity be split in order to achieve stated equality of
20 population goals;

21 (e) To preserve cores of existing districts where such efforts are consistent with
22 and do not violate the other stated criteria; and

23 (f) To create compact districts.

24 (5) The standard for creating districts for the election of members to the Supreme
25 Court of Kentucky shall be in accordance with Section 110 of the Constitution of
26 Kentucky.

27 ➔SECTION 4. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 5 IS CREATED TO

1 READ AS FOLLOWS:

- 2 (1) On or before November 1 of the year following the decennial census, the
3 commission shall prepare a tentative proposal based on population for the
4 reapportionment and redistricting of:
- 5 (a) The House of Representatives into one hundred (100) districts;
6 (b) The Senate into thirty-eight (38) districts; and
7 (c) United States congressional districts as allocated to the Commonwealth.
- 8 (2) The commission shall present the reapportionment and redistricting proposals as
9 set forth in subsection (1) of this section to the Legislative Research Commission
10 no later than the first Monday in November of the year following the decennial
11 census.
- 12 (3) The Legislative Research Commission shall refer the reapportionment and
13 redistricting proposals to the Interim Joint Committee on State Government for
14 its review and consideration of the reapportionment and redistricting proposals at
15 its November meeting.
- 16 (4) During the next Regular Session of the Kentucky General Assembly or during an
17 Extraordinary Session following the review of the Interim Joint Committee on
18 State Government, the General Assembly shall consider the commission's
19 reapportionment and redistricting proposals for enactment into law.