

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL NO. 295

102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MOSLEY.

0155S.01H

KRISTINA MARTIN, Secretary

AN ACT

To amend chapter 162, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the creation of wards in certain school districts.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 162, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 162.386, to read as follows:

162.386. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in any school district in which is located, or which adjoins a school district in which is located, in whole or in part, a street light maintenance district with a registration of more than one thousand but less than three thousand voters, or in which is wholly located a street light maintenance district with a registration of more than five hundred but less than one thousand voters, and that is located within a county with a charter form of government and with more than nine hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, the board of election commissioners of the county sitting as an apportionment commission shall establish seven wards for the purpose of electing directors of such districts. In the event of a tie vote in adopting an apportionment or reapportionment of the wards, the chairperson of the school board of the affected school district shall break the tie.

18 2. (1) The ward boundaries shall be drawn by the
19 commissioners within ninety days after the effective date of
20 this act, and within six months after each decennial census
21 is reported to the President of the United States.

22 (2) The commissioners shall apportion the wards by
23 dividing the population, determined by the preceding
24 decennial census, of the district by the number of directors
25 and shall establish each ward so that the population of that
26 ward shall, as nearly as possible, equal that figure or be
27 within one percent thereof. Each ward shall be composed of
28 contiguous territory as compact as may be.

29 3. All board members elected or appointed in any such
30 district shall be elected or appointed to represent one of
31 the wards, beginning with the first general municipal
32 election or vacancy occurring after August 28, 2023. Each
33 member shall reside for one year prior to the date of his or
34 her election in the ward from which he or she is elected,
35 or, in the case of a vacancy, the ward from which he or she
36 is appointed, and shall forfeit their office if they remove
37 their residence from the ward. Such vacancy may be
38 declared, and the office filled by the remaining members of
39 the board as provided by law.

40 4. Elected members of the board in office on August
41 28, 2023, shall hold office for the length of term for which
42 they were elected, and until their successors are elected
43 and qualified, and any members appointed to fill vacancies
44 in office occurring after August 28, 2023, shall serve until
45 the next general municipal election, at which time a
46 successor shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the
47 term to which the replaced member was elected.

48 5. At the first general municipal election to occur
49 after the effective date of this act, the elections for the

50 seats of any expiring terms or appointed terms, as provided
51 herein, of at-large board members shall be filled by persons
52 elected from the lowest-numbered wards, as those wards are
53 created and numbered by the apportionment commission. The
54 second such general municipal election shall be for the
55 lowest-numbered wards not filled at the prior election, and
56 the third such election shall be for the remaining wards not
57 filled at the prior two elections.

58 6. The law governing school districts and seven-
59 director school districts shall continue to apply to any
60 district described in this section, except as expressly
61 provided in this section.

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