

2012 -- S 2489

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LC01472  
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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2012

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A N A C T

RELATING TO ELECTIONS

Introduced By: Senators Doyle, Bates, Crowley, and Nesselbush

Date Introduced: February 16, 2012

Referred To: Senate Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1           SECTION 1. Section 17-11-1 of the General Laws in Chapter 17-11 entitled "Voting  
2 Districts and Officials" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3           **17-11-1. Division of towns and representative district into voting districts. --** The  
4 local board of any city or town may, on or before the sixtieth (60th) day preceding any election,  
5 divide or redivide the city or town, or any representative district in the city or town, into voting  
6 districts. The local board of each city or town shall determine voting districts by geographical  
7 boundaries and by no other means. No voting district shall at any time comprise parts of two (2)  
8 or more wards. It shall be the duty of the board to divide the town, representative district, or ward,  
9 which shall be limited to four thousand (4,000) voters in the same voting district and approved by  
10 the state board, excepting that the state board may approve a voting district serving more than  
11 four thousand (4,000) voters if ~~so that substantially not more than nineteen hundred (1900) voters~~  
12 ~~shall be served by the same polling place; provided, that subject to the approval of the state board,~~  
13 ~~a local board may provide for serving more than nineteen hundred (1900) voters in the same~~  
14 ~~polling place where~~ the effect to the contrary would be of creating a polling place serving less  
15 than ~~one hundred fifty (150)~~ one thousand (1,000) voters. A polling place may be located either  
16 within or without the voting district for which it is established; provided, that a polling place may  
17 be located outside the district only upon unanimous determination of the local board and subject  
18 to the approval of the state board that a suitable place is not available within the voting district. In  
19 making the calculation required by this section, voters whose names are on the inactive list of

1 voters shall not be included.

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
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1           This act would increase the maximum number of active voters served by the same polling  
2 place from 1,900 voters to 4,000 voters or the local election board can increase the number of  
3 voters at a single voting place above the 4,000 voter limit as long as the effect would not result in  
4 a voting place serving less than 1,000 voters.

5           This act would take effect upon passage.

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