### 118TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

## H. R. 7910

To require States to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a redistricting plan developed by an independent redistricting commission, and for other purposes.

## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 9, 2024

Mr. Nickel (for himself and Ms. Lofgren) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

## A BILL

To require States to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a redistricting plan developed by an independent redistricting commission, and for other purposes.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDING OF CONSTITUTIONAL
- 4 AUTHORITY; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
- 5 (a) Short Title.—This Act may be cited as the
- 6 "Fair And Impartial Redistricting for Meaningful and Ac-
- 7 countable Political Systems Act" or the "FAIR MAPS
- 8 Act".

- 1 (b) FINDING OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY.— Congress finds that it has the authority to establish the terms and conditions States must follow in carrying out 4 congressional redistricting after an apportionment of Members of the House of Representatives because— 6 (1) the authority granted to Congress under ar-7 ticle I, section 4 of the Constitution of the United 8 States gives Congress the power to enact laws gov-9 erning the time, place, and manner of elections for 10 Members of the House of Representatives; and 11 (2) the authority granted to Congress under 12 section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Con-13 stitution gives Congress the power to enact laws to 14 enforce section 2 of such amendment, which requires 15 Representatives to be apportioned among the several 16 States according to their number.
- 17 (c) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of
- 18 this Act is as follows:
  - Sec. 1. Short title; finding of constitutional authority; table of contents.

#### TITLE I—REQUIREMENTS FOR CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING

- Sec. 101. Requiring congressional redistricting to be conducted through plan of independent State commission.
- Sec. 102. Ban on mid-decade redistricting.
- Sec. 103. Criteria for redistricting.

#### TITLE II—INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

- Sec. 201. Independent redistricting commission.
- Sec. 202. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.
- Sec. 203. Public notice and input.
- Sec. 204. Establishment of related entities.

Sec. 205. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

## TITLE III—ROLE OF COURTS IN DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLANS

- Sec. 301. Enactment of plan developed by 3-judge court.
- Sec. 302. Special rule for redistricting conducted under order of Federal court.

#### TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Payments to States for carrying out redistricting.
- Sec. 402. Civil enforcement.
- Sec. 403. State apportionment notice defined.
- Sec. 404. No effect on elections for State and local office.
- Sec. 405. Effective date.

## TITLE V—REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS

- Subtitle A—Application of Certain Requirements for Redistricting Carried Out Pursuant to 2020 Census
- Sec. 501. Application of certain requirements for redistricting carried out pursuant to 2020 Census.
- Sec. 502. Triggering events.
- Subtitle B—Independent Redistricting Commissions for Redistricting Carried Out Pursuant to 2020 Census
- Sec. 511. Use of independent redistricting commissions for redistricting carried out pursuant to 2020 Census.
- Sec. 512. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.
- Sec. 513. Criteria for redistricting plan; public notice and input.
- Sec. 514. Establishment of related entities.
- Sec. 515. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

## 1 TITLE I—REQUIREMENTS FOR

- 2 **CONGRESSIONAL REDIS-**
- 3 TRICTING
- 4 SEC. 101. REQUIRING CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING TO
- 5 BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDE-
- 6 PENDENT STATE COMMISSION.
- 7 (a) Use of Plan Required.—Notwithstanding any
- 8 other provision of law, and except as provided in sub-
- 9 section (c) and subsection (d), any congressional redis-

- 1 tricting conducted by a State shall be conducted in accord-
- 2 ance with—
- 3 (1) the redistricting plan developed and enacted
- 4 into law by the independent redistricting commission
- 5 established in the State, in accordance with title II;
- 6 or
- 7 (2) if a plan developed by such commission is
- 8 not enacted into law, the redistricting plan developed
- 9 and enacted into law by a 3-judge court, in accord-
- ance with section 301.
- 11 (b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 22(c) of
- 12 the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and
- 13 subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an ap-
- 14 portionment of Representatives in Congress", approved
- 15 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking
- 16 "in the manner provided by the law thereof" and insert-
- 17 ing: "in the manner provided by the FAIR MAPS Act".
- 18 (c) Special Rule for Existing Commissions.—
- 19 Subsection (a) does not apply to any State in which, under
- 20 law in effect continuously on and after the date of the
- 21 enactment of this Act, congressional redistricting is car-
- 22 ried out in accordance with a plan developed and approved
- 23 by an independent redistricting commission which is in
- 24 compliance with each of the following requirements:

- 1 (1) Publicly available application proc-2 Ess.—Membership on the commission is open to citi-3 zens of the State through a publicly available appli-4 cation process.
  - (2) DISQUALIFICATIONS FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND POLITICAL APPOINTMENT.—Individuals who, for a covered period of time as established by the State, hold or have held public office, individuals who are or have been candidates for elected public office, and individuals who serve or have served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a campaign committee of a candidate for public office are disqualified from serving on the commission.
  - (3) Screening for conflicts.—Individuals who apply to serve on the commission are screened through a process that excludes persons with conflicts of interest from the pool of potential commissioners.
  - (4) Multi-partisan composition.—Membership on the commission represents those who are affiliated with the two political parties whose candidates received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State, as well as those who are unaffiliated with any party or who are affiliated with political parties

- other than the two political parties whose candidates received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
  - (5) CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING.—Members of the commission are required to meet certain criteria in the map drawing process, including minimizing the division of communities of interest and a ban on drawing maps to favor a political party.
  - (6) Public input.—Public hearings are held and comments from the public are accepted before a final map is approved.
  - (7) Broad-based support for approval of Final Plan.—The approval of the final redistricting plan requires a majority vote of the members of the commission, including the support of at least one member of each of the following:
    - (A) Members who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
    - (B) Members who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the second most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.

- 1 (C) Members who are not affiliated with 2 any political party or who are affiliated with po-3 litical parties other than the political parties de-4 scribed in subparagraphs (A) and (B).
- 5 (d) Treatment of State of Iowa.—Subsection (a)
- 6 does not apply to the State of Iowa, so long as congres-
- 7 sional redistricting in such State is carried out in accord-
- 8 ance with a plan developed by the Iowa Legislative Serv-
- 9 ices Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Redis-
- 10 tricting Advisory Commission, under law which was in ef-
- 11 fect for the most recent congressional redistricting carried
- 12 out in the State prior to the date of the enactment of this
- 13 Act and which remains in effect continuously on and after
- 14 the date of the enactment of this Act.

#### 15 SEC. 102. BAN ON MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING.

- A State that has been redistricted in accordance with
- 17 this Act and a State described in section 101(c) or section
- 18 101(d) may not be redistricted again until after the next
- 19 apportionment of Representatives under section 22(a) of
- 20 the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and
- 21 subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an ap-
- 22 portionment of Representatives in Congress', approved
- 23 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), unless a court requires the
- 24 State to conduct such subsequent redistricting to comply
- 25 with the Constitution of the United States, the Voting

- 1 Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), the Con-
- 2 stitution of the State, or the terms or conditions of this
- 3 Act.

#### 4 SEC. 103. CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING.

- 5 (a) Criteria.—Under the redistricting plan of a
- 6 State, there shall be established single-member congres-
- 7 sional districts using the following criteria as set forth in
- 8 the following order of priority:
- 9 (1) Districts shall comply with the United
- 10 States Constitution, including the requirement that
- 11 they equalize total population.
- 12 (2) Districts shall comply with the Voting
- 13 Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), in-
- 14 cluding by creating any districts where two or more
- politically cohesive groups protected by such Act are
- able to elect representatives of choice in coalition
- 17 with one another, and all applicable Federal laws.
- 18 (3) Districts shall be drawn, to the extent that
- the totality of the circumstances warrant, to ensure
- 20 the practical ability of a group protected under the
- 21 Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et
- seq.) to participate in the political process and to
- 23 nominate candidates and to elect representatives of
- choice is not diluted or diminished, regardless of

whether or not such protected group constitutes a majority of a district's citizen voting age population.

(4) Districts shall respect communities of interest, neighborhoods, and political subdivisions to the extent practicable and after compliance with the requirements of paragraphs (1) through (3). A community of interest is defined as an area with recognized similarities of interests, including but not limited to ethnic, racial, economic, tribal, social, cultural, geographic or historic identities. The term communities of interest may, in certain circumstances, include political subdivisions such as counties, municipalities, tribal lands and reservations, or school districts, but shall not include common relationships with political parties or political candidates.

- 17 (b) No Favoring or Disfavoring of Political 18 Parties.—
  - (1) Prohibition.—The redistricting plan enacted by a State shall not, when considered on a Statewide basis, be drawn with the intent or the effect of unduly favoring or disfavoring any political party.
- 24 (2) Determination of Effect.—

- (A) Totality of circumstances.—For purposes of paragraph (1), the determination of whether a redistricting plan has the effect of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party shall be based on the totality of circumstances, including evidence regarding the durability and severity of a plan's partisan bias.
  - (B) Plans deemed to have effect of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party under the totality of circumstances under subparagraph (A), a redistricting plan shall be deemed to have the effect of unduly favoring a political party under the totality of circumstances under subparagraph (A), a redistricting plan shall be deemed to have the effect of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party if—
    - (i) modeling based on relevant historical voting patterns shows that the plan is statistically likely to result in a partisan bias of more than one seat in States with 20 or fewer congressional districts or a partisan bias of more than 2 seats in States with more than 20 congressional districts, as determined using quantitative

measures of partisan fairness, which may include, but are not limited to, the seats-to-votes curve for an enacted plan, the efficiency gap, the declination, partisan asymmetry, and the mean-median difference, and

- (ii) alternative plans, which may include, but are not limited to, those generated by redistricting algorithms, exist that could have complied with the requirements of law and not been in violation of paragraph (1).
- (3) Determination of intent.—For purposes of paragraph (A), a rebuttable presumption shall exist that a redistricting plan enacted by the legislature of a State was not enacted with the intent of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party if the plan was enacted with the support of at least a third of the members of the second largest political party in each house of the legislature.
- (4) NO VIOLATION BASED ON CERTAIN CRITERIA.—No redistricting plan shall be found to be in violation of paragraph (1) because of partisan bias attributable to the application of the criteria set forth in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a),

- 1 unless one or more alternative plans could have com-
- 2 plied with such paragraphs without having the effect
- of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party.
- 4 (c) Factors Prohibited From Consideration.—
- 5 In developing the redistricting plan for the State, the inde-
- 6 pendent redistricting commission may not take into con-
- 7 sideration any of the following factors, except to the extent
- 8 necessary to comply with the criteria described in para-
- 9 graphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a), subsection (b),
- 10 and to enable the redistricting plan to be measured
- 11 against the external metrics described in section 203(d):
- 12 (1) The residence of any Member of the House
- of Representatives or candidate.
- 14 (2) The political party affiliation or voting his-
- tory of the population of a district.
- 16 (d) Applicability.—This section applies to any au-
- 17 thority, whether appointed, elected, judicial, or otherwise,
- 18 that designs or enacts a congressional redistricting plan
- 19 of a State.
- 20 (e) SEVERABILITY OF CRITERIA.—If any of the cri-
- 21 teria set forth in this section, or the application of such
- 22 criteria to any person or circumstance, is held to be uncon-
- 23 stitutional, the remaining criteria set forth in this section,
- 24 and the application of such criteria to any person or cir-
- 25 cumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.

# 1 TITLE II—INDEPENDENT 2 REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

3	SEC. 201. INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.
4	(a) Appointment of Members.—
5	(1) In general.—The nonpartisan agency es-
6	tablished or designated by a State under section
7	204(a) shall establish an independent redistricting
8	commission for the State, which shall consist of 15
9	members appointed by the agency as follows:
10	(A) Not later than October 1 of a year
11	ending in the numeral zero, the agency shall, at
12	a public meeting held not earlier than 15 days
13	after notice of the meeting has been given to
14	the public, first appoint 6 members as follows:
15	(i) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
16	bers on a random basis from the majority
17	category of the approved selection pool (as
18	described in section 202(b)(1)(A)).
19	(ii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
20	bers on a random basis from the minority
21	category of the approved selection pool (as
22	described in section 202(b)(1)(B)).
23	(iii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
24	bers on a random basis from the inde-

1	pendent category of the approved selection
2	pool (as described in section 202(b)(1)(C)).
3	(B) Not later than November 15 of a year
4	ending in the numeral zero, the members ap-
5	pointed by the agency under subparagraph (A)
6	shall, at a public meeting held not earlier than
7	15 days after notice of the meeting has been
8	given to the public, then appoint 9 members as
9	follows:
10	(i) The members shall appoint 3 mem-
11	bers from the majority category of the ap-
12	proved selection pool (as described in sec-
13	tion $202(b)(1)(A)$ ).
14	(ii) The members shall appoint 3
15	members from the minority category of the
16	approved selection pool (as described in
17	section $202(b)(1)(B)$ ).
18	(iii) The members shall appoint 3
19	members from the independent category of
20	the approved selection pool (as described in
21	section $202(b)(1)(C)$ .
22	(2) Rules for appointment of members
23	APPOINTED BY FIRST MEMBERS.—
24	(A) Affirmative vote of at least 4
25	MEMBERS.—The appointment of any of the 9

members of the independent redistricting commission who are appointed by the first members of the commission pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), as well as the designation of alternates for such members pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) and the appointment of alternates to fill vacancies pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4), shall require the affirmative vote of at least 4 of the members appointed by the nonpartisan agency under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), including at least one member from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph.

(B) Ensuring diversity.—In appointing the 9 members pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), as well as in designating alternates pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) and in appointing alternates to fill vacancies pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4), the first members of the independent redistricting commission shall ensure that the membership is representative of the demographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and provides racial, ethnic, and lan-

guage minorities protected under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State's redistricting plan.

- (3) Designation of alternates to serve in case of vacancies.—
  - (A) Members appointed by agency.—At the time the agency appoints the members of the independent redistricting commission under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall, on a random basis, designate 2 other individuals from such category to serve as alternate members who may be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission in accordance with paragraph (4).
  - (B) Members appointed by first members.—At the time the members appointed by the agency appoint the other members of the independent redistricting commission under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the members shall, in accordance with the special rules described in paragraph (2), designate 2 other individuals from such cat-

egory to serve as alternate members who may be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission in accordance with paragraph (4).

## (4) Appointment of alternates to serve in case of vacancies.—

(A) Members appointed by agency.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the nonpartisan agency under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) from one of the categories referred to in such subparagraph, the agency shall fill the vacancy by appointing, on a random basis, one of the 2 alternates from such category who was designated under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3). At the time the agency appoints an alternate to fill a vacancy under the previous sentence, the agency shall designate, on a random basis, another individual from the same category to serve as an alternate member, in accordance with subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3).

(B) Members appointed by first members.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect to a member who was appointed by the first members of the commission under sub-

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1 paragraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the 2 categories referred to in such subparagraph, the 3 first members shall, in accordance with the spe-4 cial rules described in paragraph (2), fill the vacancy by appointing one of the 2 alternates 6 from such category who was designated under 7 subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3). At the time 8 the first members appoint an alternate to fill a 9 vacancy under the previous sentence, the first 10 members shall, in accordance with the special 11 rules described in paragraph (2), designate an-12 other individual from the same category to 13 serve as an alternate member, in accordance 14 with subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3).

- (5) Removal.—A member of the independent redistricting commission may be removed by a majority vote of the remaining members of the commission if it is shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the member is not eligible to serve on the commission under section 202(a).
- 21 (b) Procedures for Conducting Commission22 Business.—
- 23 (1) CHAIR.—Members of an independent redis-24 tricting commission established under this section 25 shall select by majority vote one member who was

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- 1 appointed from the independent category of the ap-2 pool described in proved selection section 202(b)(1)(C) to serve as chair of the commission. 3 4 The commission may not take any action to develop 5 a redistricting plan for the State under section 203 6 until the appointment of the commission's chair.
  - (2) REQUIRING MAJORITY APPROVAL FOR ACTIONS.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may not publish and disseminate any draft or final redistricting plan, or take any other action, without the approval of at least—
  - (A) a majority of the whole membership of the commission; and
    - (B) at least one member of the commission appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 202(b)(1).
  - (3) QUORUM.—A majority of the members of the commission shall constitute a quorum.
- 20 (c) Staff; Contractors.—
  - (1) STAFF.—Under a public application process in which all application materials are available for public inspection, the independent redistricting commission of a State shall appoint and set the pay of technical experts, legal counsel, consultants, and

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- such other staff as it considers appropriate, subject
  to State law.
  - (2) Contractors.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may enter into such contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate, subject to State law, except that any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, including at least one member appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 202(b)(1).
    - (3) Reports on expenditures for political activity.—
      - (A) Report by applicants.—Each individual who applies for a position as an employee of the independent redistricting commission and each vendor who applies for a contract with the commission shall, at the time of applying, file with the commission a report summarizing—
        - (i) any expenditure for political activity made by such individual or vendor during the 10 most recent calendar years; and
        - (ii) any income received by such individual or vendor during the 10 most recent

1	calendar years which is attributable to an
2	expenditure for political activity.
3	(B) Annual reports by employees
4	AND VENDORS.—Each person who is an em-
5	ployee or vendor of the independent redis-
6	tricting commission shall, not later than 1 year
7	after the person is appointed as an employee or
8	enters into a contract as a vendor (as the case
9	may be) and annually thereafter for each year
10	during which the person serves as an employee
11	or a vendor, file with the commission a report
12	summarizing the expenditures and income de-
13	scribed in subparagraph (A) during the 10 most
14	recent calendar years.
15	(C) EXPENDITURE FOR POLITICAL ACTIV-
16	ITY DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term
17	"expenditure for political activity" means a dis-
18	bursement for any of the following:
19	(i) An independent expenditure, as de-
20	fined in section 301(17) of the Federal
21	Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.
22	30101(17)).
23	(ii) An electioneering communication,
24	as defined in section 304(f)(3) of such Act
25	(52 U.S.C. 30104(f)(3)) or any other pub-

lic communication, as defined in section 301(22) of such Act (52 U.S.C. 30101(22)) that would be an electioneering communication if it were a broadcast, cable, or satellite communication.

(iii) Any dues or other payments to trade associations or organizations described in section 501(c) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from tax under section 501(a) of such Code that are, or could reasonably be anticipated to be, used or transferred to another association or organization for a use described in paragraph (1), (2), or (4) of section 501(c) of such Code.

(4) Goal of impartiality.—The commission shall take such steps as it considers appropriate to ensure that any staff appointed under this subsection, and any vendor with whom the commission enters into a contract under this subsection, will work in an impartial manner, and may require any person who applies for an appointment to a staff position or for a vendor's contract with the commission to provide information on the person's history of political activity beyond the information on the per-

son's expenditures for political activity provided in the reports required under paragraph (3) (including donations to candidates, political committees, and political parties) as a condition of the appointment or the contract.

## (5) Disqualification; waiver.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission may not appoint an individual as an employee, and may not enter into a contract with a vendor, if the individual or vendor meets any of the criteria for the disqualification of an individual from serving as a member of the commission which are set forth in section 202(a)(2).
- (B) WAIVER.—The commission may by unanimous vote of its members waive the application of subparagraph (A) to an individual or a vendor after receiving and reviewing the report filed by the individual or vendor under paragraph (3).

## (d) Termination.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission of a State shall terminate on the earlier of—

1	(A) June 14 of the next year ending in the
2	numeral zero; or
3	(B) the day on which the nonpartisan
4	agency established or designated by a State
5	under section 204(a) has, in accordance with
6	section 202(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to
7	the Select Committee on Redistricting for the
8	State established under section 204(b).
9	(2) Preservation of Records.—The State
10	shall ensure that the records of the independent re-
11	districting commission are retained in the appro-
12	priate State archive in such manner as may be nec-
13	essary to enable the State to respond to any civil ac-
14	tion brought with respect to congressional redis-
15	tricting in the State.
16	SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDI-
17	VIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS
18	OF COMMISSION.
19	(a) Criteria for Eligibility.—
20	(1) In general.—An individual is eligible to
21	serve as a member of an independent redistricting
22	commission if the individual meets each of the fol-
23	lowing criteria:

- 1 (A) As of the date of appointment, the in2 dividual is registered to vote in elections for
  3 Federal office held in the State.
  4 (B) During the 3-year period ending on
  5 the date of the individual's appointment, the in6 dividual has been continuously registered to
  - (C) The individual submits to the nonpartisan agency established or designated by a State under section 203, at such time and in such form as the agency may require, an application for inclusion in the selection pool under this section, and includes with the application a written statement, with an attestation under penalty of perjury, containing the following information and assurances:

vote with the same political party, or has not

been registered to vote with any political party.

(i) The full current name and any former names of, and the contact information for, the individual, including an electronic mail address, the address of the individual's residence, mailing address, and telephone numbers.

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1	(ii) The individual's race, ethnicity,
2	gender, age, date of birth, and household
3	income for the most recent taxable year.
4	(iii) The political party with which the
5	individual is affiliated, if any.
6	(iv) The reason or reasons the indi-
7	vidual desires to serve on the independent
8	redistricting commission, the individual's
9	qualifications, and information relevant to
10	the ability of the individual to be fair and
11	impartial, including, but not limited to—
12	(I) any involvement with, or fi-
13	nancial support of, professional, so-
14	cial, political, religious, or community
15	organizations or causes; or
16	(II) the individual's employment
17	and educational history.
18	(v) An assurance that the individual
19	shall commit to carrying out the individ-
20	ual's duties under this Act in an honest,
21	independent, and impartial fashion, and to
22	upholding public confidence in the integrity
23	of the redistricting process.
24	(vi) An assurance that, during the
25	covered periods described in paragraph (3).

1	the individual has not taken and will not
2	take any action which would disqualify the
3	individual from serving as a member of the
4	commission under paragraph (2).
5	(2) Disqualifications.—An individual is not
6	eligible to serve as a member of the commission if
7	any of the following applies during any of the cov-
8	ered periods described in paragraph (3):
9	(A) The individual or (in the case of the
10	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
11	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
12	member of the individual holds public office or
13	is a candidate for election for public office.
14	(B) The individual or (in the case of the
15	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
16	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
17	member of the individual serves as an officer of
18	a political party or as an officer, employee, or
19	paid consultant of a campaign committee of a
20	candidate for public office or of any political ac-
21	tion committee (as determined in accordance
22	with the law of the State).
23	(C) The individual or (in the case of the
24	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)

and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family

member of the individual holds a position as a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or an equivalent State or local law.

- (D) The individual or (in the case of the covered periods described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family member of the individual is an employee of an elected public official, a contractor with the government of the State, or a donor to the campaign of any candidate for public office or to any political action committee (other than a donor who, during any of such covered periods, gives an aggregate amount of \$1,000 or less to the campaigns of all candidates for all public offices and to all political action committees).
- (E) The individual paid a civil money penalty or criminal fine, or was sentenced to a term of imprisonment, for violating any provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.).
- (F) The individual or (in the case of the covered periods described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family member of the individual is an agent of a for-

1	eign principal under the Foreign Agents Reg-
2	istration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C.
3	611 et seq.).
4	(3) COVERED PERIODS DESCRIBED.—In this
5	subsection, the term "covered period" means, with
6	respect to the appointment of an individual to the
7	commission, any of the following:
8	(A) The 10-year period ending on the date
9	of the individual's appointment.
10	(B) The period beginning on the date of
11	the individual's appointment and ending on Au-
12	gust 14 of the next year ending in the numeral
13	one.
14	(C) The 10-year period beginning on the
15	day after the last day of the period described in
16	subparagraph (B).
17	(4) Immediate family member defined.—In
18	this subsection, the term "immediate family mem-
19	ber" means, with respect to an individual, a father,
20	stepfather, mother, stepmother, son, stepson, daugh-
21	ter, stepdaughter, brother, stepbrother, sister, step-
22	sister, husband, wife, father-in-law, or mother-in-
23	law.
24	(b) Development and Submission of Selection
25	Pool.—

- (1) In General.—Not later than June 15 of each year ending in the numeral zero, the non-partisan agency established or designated by a State under section 204(a) shall develop and submit to the Select Committee on Redistricting for the State es-tablished under section 204(b) a selection pool of 36 individuals who are eligible to serve as members of the independent redistricting commission of the State under this Act, consisting of individuals in the following categories:
  - (A) A majority category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
  - (B) A minority category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the second most votes in the most recent statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
  - (C) An independent category, consisting of 12 individuals who are not affiliated with either of the political parties described in subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B).

- (2) Factors taken into account in developing pool.—In selecting individuals for the selection pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan agency shall—
  - (A) ensure that the pool is representative of the demographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and includes applicants who would allow racial, ethnic, and language minorities protected under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State's redistricting plan; and
  - (B) take into consideration the analytical skills of the individuals selected in relevant fields (including mapping, data management, law, community outreach, demography, and the geography of the State) and their ability to work on an impartial basis.
  - (3) Interviews of applicants.—To assist the nonpartisan agency in developing the selection pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan agency shall conduct interviews of applicants under oath. If an individual is included in a selection pool developed under this section, all of the interviews of the

- individual shall be transcribed and the transcriptions made available on the nonpartisan agency's website contemporaneously with release of the report under paragraph (6).
- (4) Determination of Political Party Affiliation of Individuals in Selection Pool.—
  For purposes of this section, an individual shall be considered to be affiliated with a political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information the individual provides in the application submitted under subsection (a)(1)(D), including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual's history of political activity.
  - (5) Encouraging residents to apply for inclusion in Pool.—The nonpartisan agency shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that residents of the State across various geographic regions and demographic groups are aware of the opportunity to serve on the independent redistricting commission, including publicizing the role of the panel and using newspapers, broadcast media, and online sources, including ethnic media, to encourage

- individuals to apply for inclusion in the selection
  pool developed under this subsection.
  - (6) Report on Establishment of select Tion Pool.—At the time the nonpartisan agency submits the selection pool to the Select Committee on Redistricting under paragraph (1), it shall publish and post on the agency's public website a report describing the process by which the pool was developed, and shall include in the report a description of how the individuals in the pool meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and of how the pool reflects the factors the agency is required to take into consideration under paragraph (2).
    - (7) Public comment on selection pool.—
      During the 14-day period which begins on the date
      the nonpartisan agency publishes the report under
      paragraph (6), the agency shall accept comments
      from the public on the individuals included in the selection pool. The agency shall post all such comments contemporaneously on the nonpartisan agency's website and shall transmit them to the Select
      Committee on Redistricting immediately upon the
      expiration of such period.
- 24 (8) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—

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1	(A) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 15
2	days and not later than 21 days after receiving
3	the selection pool from the nonpartisan agency
4	under paragraph (1), the Select Committee on
5	Redistricting shall, by majority vote—
6	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
7	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
8	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
9	tion pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1);
10	or
11	(ii) reject the pool, in which case the
12	nonpartisan agency shall develop and sub-
13	mit a replacement selection pool in accord-
14	ance with subsection (c).
15	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
16	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
17	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
18	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
19	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
20	for purposes of such subparagraph.
21	(c) Development of Replacement Selection
22	Pool.—
23	(1) In General.—If the Select Committee on
24	Redistricting rejects the selection pool submitted by
25	the nonpartisan agency under subsection (b), not

later than 14 days after the rejection, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit to the Select Committee a replacement selection pool, under
the same terms and conditions that applied to the
development and submission of the selection pool
under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b).

The replacement pool submitted under this paragraph may include individuals who were included in
the rejected selection pool submitted under subsection (b), so long as at least one of the individuals
in the replacement pool was not included in such rejected pool.

## (2) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—

- (A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 21 days after receiving the replacement selection pool from the nonpartisan agency under paragraph (1), the Select Committee on Redistricting shall, by majority vote—
  - (i) approve the pool as submitted by the nonpartisan agency, in which case the pool shall be considered the approved selection pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1); or
  - (ii) reject the pool, in which case the nonpartisan agency shall develop and sub-

- 1 mit a second replacement selection pool in 2 accordance with subsection (d).
- 3 (B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
  4 the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
  5 approve or reject the pool within the deadline
  6 set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Committee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
  7 for purposes of such subparagraph.
- 9 (d) DEVELOPMENT OF SECOND REPLACEMENT SE-10 LECTION POOL.—
  - (1) In General.—If the Select Committee on Redistricting rejects the replacement selection pool submitted by the nonpartisan agency under subsection (c), not later than 14 days after the rejection, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and submit to the Select Committee a second replacement selection pool, under the same terms and conditions that applied to the development and submission of the selection pool under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b). The second replacement selection pool submitted under this paragraph may include individuals who were included in the rejected selection pool submitted under subsection (b) or the rejected replacement selection pool submitted under subsection (c), so long as at least one of the individuals

1	in the replacement pool was not included in either
2	such rejected pool.
3	(2) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—
4	(A) IN GENERAL.—Not earlier than 15
5	days and not later than 14 days after receiving
6	the second replacement selection pool from the
7	nonpartisan agency under paragraph (1), the
8	Select Committee on Redistricting shall, by ma-
9	jority vote—
10	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
11	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
12	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
13	tion pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1);
14	or
15	(ii) reject the pool.
16	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
17	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
18	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
19	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
20	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
21	for purposes of such subparagraph.
22	(C) EFFECT OF REJECTION.—If the Select
23	Committee on Redistricting rejects the second
24	replacement pool from the nonpartisan agency
25	under paragraph (1), the redistricting plan for

1	the State shall be developed and enacted in ac
2	cordance with title III.
3	SEC. 203. PUBLIC NOTICE AND INPUT.
4	(a) Public Notice and Input.—
5	(1) Use of open and transparent proc
6	ESS.—The independent redistricting commission of a
7	State shall hold each of its meetings in public, shall
8	solicit and take into consideration comments from
9	the public, including proposed maps, throughout the
10	process of developing the redistricting plan for the
11	State, and shall carry out its duties in an open and
12	transparent manner which provides for the wides
13	public dissemination reasonably possible of its pro-
14	posed and final redistricting plans.
15	(2) Website.—
16	(A) Features.—The commission shall
17	maintain a public Internet site which is not af
18	filiated with or maintained by the office of any
19	elected official and which includes the following
20	features:
21	(i) General information on the com
22	mission, its role in the redistricting proc
23	ess, and its members, including contact in

formation.

1	(ii) An updated schedule of commis-
2	sion hearings and activities, including
3	deadlines for the submission of comments.
4	(iii) All draft redistricting plans devel-
5	oped by the commission under subsection
6	(b) and the final redistricting plan devel-
7	oped under subsection (c), including the
8	accompanying written evaluation under
9	subsection (d).
10	(iv) All comments received from the
11	public on the commission's activities, in-
12	cluding any proposed maps submitted
13	under paragraph (1).
14	(v) Live streaming of commission
15	hearings and an archive of previous meet-
16	ings, including any documents considered
17	at any such meeting, which the commission
18	shall post not later than 24 hours after the
19	conclusion of the meeting.
20	(vi) Access in an easily useable format
21	to the demographic and other data used by
22	the commission to develop and analyze the
23	proposed redistricting plans, together with
24	access to any software used to draw maps

1	of proposed districts and to any reports
2	analyzing and evaluating any such maps.
3	(vii) A method by which members of
4	the public may submit comments and pro-
5	posed maps directly to the commission.
6	(viii) All records of the commission,
7	including all communications to or from
8	members, employees, and contractors re-
9	garding the work of the commission.
10	(ix) A list of all contractors receiving
11	payment from the commission, together
12	with the annual disclosures submitted by
13	the contractors under section $201(c)(3)$ .
14	(x) A list of the names of all individ-
15	uals who submitted applications to serve
16	on the commission, together with the appli-
17	cations submitted by individuals included
18	in any selection pool, except that the com-
19	mission may redact from such applications
20	any financial or other personally sensitive
21	information.
22	(B) Searchable format.—The commis-
23	sion shall ensure that all information posted
24	and maintained on the site under this para-
25	graph, including information and proposed

1	maps submitted by the public, shall be main-
2	tained in an easily searchable format.
3	(C) Deadline.—The commission shall en-
4	sure that the public internet site under this
5	paragraph is operational (in at least a prelimi-
6	nary format) not later than January 1 of the
7	year ending in the numeral one.
8	(3) Public comment period.—The commis-
9	sion shall solicit, accept, and consider comments
10	from the public with respect to its duties, activities,
11	and procedures at any time during the period—
12	(A) which begins on January 1 of the year
13	ending in the numeral one; and
14	(B) which ends 7 days before the date of
15	the meeting at which the commission shall vote
16	on approving the final redistricting plan for en-
17	actment into law under subsection $(c)(2)$ .
18	(4) Meetings and hearings in various geo-
19	GRAPHIC LOCATIONS.—To the greatest extent prac-
20	ticable, the commission shall hold its meetings and
21	hearings in various geographic regions and locations
22	throughout the State.
23	(5) Multiple language requirements for
24	ALL NOTICES.—The commission shall make each no-
25	tice which is required to be posted and published

1	under this section available in any language in which
2	the State (or any jurisdiction in the State) is re-
3	quired to provide election materials under section
4	203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
5	(b) Development and Publication of Prelimi-
6	NARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.—
7	(1) In general.—Prior to developing and pub-
8	lishing a final redistricting plan under subsection
9	(c), the independent redistricting commission of a
10	State shall develop and publish a preliminary redis-
11	tricting plan.
12	(2) Minimum public hearings and oppor-
13	TUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT.—
14	(A) 3 Hearings required.—Prior to de-
15	veloping a preliminary redistricting plan under
16	this subsection, the commission shall hold not
17	fewer than 3 public hearings at which members
18	of the public may provide input and comments
19	regarding the potential contents of redistricting
20	plans for the State and the process by which
21	the commission will develop the preliminary
22	plan under this subsection.
23	(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
24	TO HEARINGS.—Not fewer than 14 days prior
25	to the date of each hearing held under this

paragraph, the commission shall post notices of the hearing in on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of such notices in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the hearing.

(C) Submission of Plans and Maps by Members of the public may submit maps or portions of maps for consideration by the commission. As provided under subsection (a)(2)(A), any such map shall be made publicly available on the commission's website and open to comment.

#### (3) Publication of Preliminary Plan.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The commission shall post the preliminary redistricting plan developed under this subsection, together with a report that includes the commission's responses to any public comments received under subsection (a)(3), on the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of each such plan in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State.

(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
TO PUBLICATION.—Not fewer than 14 days
prior to the date on which the commission posts
and publishes the preliminary plan under this
paragraph, the commission shall notify the public through the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), as well as through publication of
notice in newspapers of general circulation
throughout the State, of the pending publication of the plan.

(4) MINIMUM POST-PUBLICATION PERIOD FOR PUBLIC COMMENT.—The commission shall accept and consider comments from the public (including through the website maintained under subsection (a)(2)) with respect to the preliminary redistricting plan published under paragraph (3), including proposed revisions to maps, for not fewer than 30 days after the date on which the plan is published.

#### (5) Post-publication hearings.—

(A) 3 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—After posting and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under paragraph (3), the commission shall hold not fewer than 3 public hearings in different geographic areas of the State at which

- 1 members of the public may provide input and 2 comments regarding the preliminary plan.
  - (B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
    TO HEARINGS.—Not fewer than 14 days prior
    to the date of each hearing held under this
    paragraph, the commission shall post notices of
    the hearing in on the website maintained under
    subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the publication of such notices in newspapers of general
    circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of
    the hearing.
    - (6) PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY PLANS.—At the option of the commission, after developing and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, the commission may develop and publish subsequent preliminary redistricting plans, so long as the process for the development and publication of each such subsequent plan meets the requirements set forth in this subsection for the development and publication of the first preliminary redistricting plan.
- 23 (c) Process for Enactment of Final Redis-24 tricting Plan.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—After taking into consideration comments from the public on any preliminary redistricting plan developed and published under subsection (b), the independent redistricting commission of a State shall develop and publish a final redistricting plan for the State.
  - (2) MEETING; FINAL VOTE.—Not later than the deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission shall hold a public hearing at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final plan for enactment into law.
  - (3) Publication of Plan and accompanying Materials.—Not fewer than 14 days before the date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the commission shall provide the following information to the public through the website maintained under subsection (a)(2), as well as through newspapers of general circulation throughout the State:
    - (A) The final redistricting plan, including all relevant maps.
    - (B) A report by the commission to accompany the plan which provides the background for the plan and the commission's reasons for selecting the plan as the final redistricting plan, including responses to the public comments re-

1	ceived on any preliminary redistricting plan de-
2	veloped and published under subsection (b).
3	(C) Any dissenting or additional views with
4	respect to the plan of individual members of the
5	commission.
6	(4) Enactment.—Subject to paragraph (5),
7	the final redistricting plan developed and published
8	under this subsection shall be deemed to be enacted
9	into law upon the expiration of the 45-day period
10	which begins on the date on which—
11	(A) such final plan is approved by a major-
12	ity of the whole membership of the commission;
13	and
14	(B) at least one member of the commission
15	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-
16	proved selection pool described in section
17	202(b)(1) approves such final plan.
18	(5) Review by department of justice.—
19	(A) REQUIRING SUBMISSION OF PLAN FOR
20	REVIEW.—The final redistricting plan shall not
21	be deemed to be enacted into law unless the
22	State submits the plan to the Department of
23	Justice for an administrative review to deter-
24	mine if the plan is in compliance with the cri-

- 1 teria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of 2 section 203(a)(1).
- 3 (B) TERMINATION OF REVIEW.—The De-4 partment of Justice shall terminate any admin-5 istrative review under subparagraph (A) if, dur-6 ing the 45-day period which begins on the date 7 the plan is enacted into law, an action is filed 8 in a United States district court alleging that 9 the plan is not in compliance with the criteria 10 described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of section 203(a)(1).
- 12 (d) Written Evaluation of Plan Against Ex-TERNAL METRICS.—The independent redistricting commission shall include with each redistricting plan devel-14 15 oped and published under this section a written evaluation that measures each such plan against external metrics 16 which cover the criteria set forth in section 103(a), including the impact of the plan on the ability of communities 18 19 of color to elect candidates of choice, measures of partisan 20 fairness using multiple accepted methodologies, and the 21 degree to which the plan preserves or divides communities 22
- 23 (e) Timing.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may begin its work on the redistricting plan of the State upon receipt of relevant population infor-

of interest.

1	mation from the Bureau of the Census, and shall approve
2	a final redistricting plan for the State in each year ending
3	in the numeral one not later than 8 months after the date
4	on which the State receives the State apportionment notice
5	or October 1, whichever occurs later.
6	SEC. 204. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES.
7	(a) Establishment or Designation of Non-
8	PARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—
9	(1) In general.—Each State shall establish a
10	nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of the
11	State government to appoint the members of the
12	independent redistricting commission for the State
13	in accordance with section 201.
14	(2) Nonpartisanship described.—For pur-
15	poses of this subsection, an agency shall be consid-
16	ered to be nonpartisan if under law the agency—
17	(A) is required to provide services on a
18	nonpartisan basis;
19	(B) is required to maintain impartiality;
20	and
21	(C) is prohibited from advocating for the
22	adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.
23	(3) Training of members appointed to
24	COMMISSION.—Not later than January 15 of a year
25	ending in the numeral one, the nonpartisan agency

- established or designated under this subsection shall provide the members of the independent redistricting commission with initial training on their obligations as members of the commission, including obligations under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and other applicable laws.
  - established or designated under this subsection shall adopt and publish regulations, after notice and opportunity for comment, establishing the procedures that the agency will follow in fulfilling its duties under this Act, including the procedures to be used in vetting the qualifications and political affiliation of applicants and in creating the selection pools, the randomized process to be used in selecting the initial members of the independent redistricting commission, and the rules that the agency will apply to ensure that the agency carries out its duties under this Act in a maximally transparent, publicly accessible, and impartial manner.
    - (5) Designation of existing agency.—At its option, a State may designate an existing agency in the legislative branch of its government to appoint the members of the independent redistricting commission plan for the State under this Act, so long

- 1 as the agency meets the requirements for non-2 partisanship under this subsection.
- (6) TERMINATION OF AGENCY SPECIFICALLY
  ESTABLISHED FOR REDISTRICTING.—If a State does
  not designate an existing agency under paragraph
  (5) but instead establishes a new agency to serve as
  the nonpartisan agency under this section, the new
  agency shall terminate upon the enactment into law
  of the redistricting plan for the State.
  - (7) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State shall ensure that the records of the nonpartisan agency are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional redistricting in the State.
  - (8) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the requirements of this subsection not later than each October 15 of a year ending in the numeral nine.
- (b) Establishment of Select Committee on Re-Districting.—
- 21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall appoint a 22 Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or dis-23 approve a selection pool developed by the inde-24 pendent redistricting commission for the State under 25 section 202.

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(2) APPOINTMENT.—The Select Committee on 1 2 Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall 3 consist of the following members: 4 (A) One member of the upper house of the State legislature, who shall be appointed by the 6 leader of the party with the greatest number of 7 seats in the upper house. 8 (B) One member of the upper house of the 9 State legislature, who shall be appointed by the 10 leader of the party with the second greatest 11 number of seats in the upper house. 12 (C) One member of the lower house of the 13 State legislature, who shall be appointed by the 14 leader of the party with the greatest number of 15 seats in the lower house. 16 (D) One member of the lower house of the 17 State legislature, who shall be appointed by the 18 leader of the party with the second greatest 19 number of seats in the lower house. 20 (3) Special rule for states with unicam-21 ERAL LEGISLATURE.—In the case of a State with a 22 unicameral legislature, the Select Committee on Re-23 districting for the State under this subsection shall

consist of the following members:

1	(A) Two members of the State legislature
2	appointed by the chair of the political party of
3	the State whose candidate received the highest
4	percentage of votes in the most recent statewide
5	election for Federal office held in the State.
6	(B) Two members of the State legislature
7	appointed by the chair of the political party
8	whose candidate received the second highest
9	percentage of votes in the most recent statewide
10	election for Federal office held in the State.
11	(4) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the re-
12	quirements of this subsection not later than each
13	January 15 of a year ending in the numeral zero
14	(5) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this
15	subsection may be construed to prohibit the leader
16	of any political party in a legislature from appoint
17	ment to the Select Committee on Redistricting.
18	SEC. 205. REPORT ON DIVERSITY OF MEMBERSHIPS OF
19	INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS
20	SIONS.
21	Not later than May 15 of a year ending in the nu-
22	meral one, the Comptroller General of the United States
23	shall submit to Congress a report on the extent to which
24	the memberships of independent redistricting commissions

25 for States established under this title with respect to the

- 1 immediately preceding year ending in the numeral zero
- 2 meet the diversity requirements as provided for in sections
- 3 201(a)(2)(B) and 202(b)(2).

### 4 TITLE III—ROLE OF COURTS IN

## 5 **DEVELOPMENT OF REDIS-**

# 6 TRICTING PLANS

- 7 SEC. 301. ENACTMENT OF PLAN DEVELOPED BY 3-JUDGE
- 8 COURT.
- 9 (a) Development of Plan.—If any of the trig-
- 10 gering events described in subsection (f) occur with re-
- 11 spect to a State—
- 12 (1) not later than December 15 of the year in
- which the triggering event occurs, the United States
- 14 district court for the applicable venue, acting
- through a 3-judge Court convened pursuant to sec-
- tion 2284 of title 28, United States Code, shall de-
- velop and publish the congressional redistricting
- plan for the State; and
- 19 (2) the final plan developed and published by
- the Court under this section shall be deemed to be
- enacted on the date on which the Court publishes
- 22 the final plan, as described in subsection (d).
- (b) Applicable Venue Described.—For purposes
- 24 of this section, the "applicable venue" with respect to a
- 25 State is the District of Columbia or the judicial district

- 1 in which the capital of the State is located, as selected
- 2 by the first party to file with the court sufficient evidence
- 3 of the occurrence of a triggering event described in sub-
- 4 section (f).

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- 5 (c) Procedures for Development of Plan.—
- 6 (1) CRITERIA.—In developing a redistricting
  7 plan for a State under this section, the Court shall
  8 adhere to the same terms and conditions that ap9 plied (or that would have applied, as the case may
  10 be) to the development of a plan by the independent
  11 redistricting commission of the State under section
  12 103.
  - (2) Access to information and records of commission.—The Court shall have access to any information, data, software, or other records and material that was used (or that would have been used, as the case may be) by the independent redistricting commission of the State in carrying out its duties under this subtitle.
  - (3) Hearing; Public Participation.—In developing a redistricting plan for a State, the Court shall—
- 23 (A) hold one or more evidentiary hearings 24 at which interested members of the public may 25 appear and be heard and present testimony, in-

- cluding expert testimony, in accordance with the rules of the Court; and
  - (B) consider other submissions and comments by the public, including proposals for redistricting plans to cover the entire State or any portion of the State.
    - (4) USE OF SPECIAL MASTER.—To assist in the development and publication of a redistricting plan for a State under this section, the Court may appoint a special master to make recommendations to the Court on possible plans for the State.

#### (d) Publication of Plan.—

- (1) Public availability of initial plan.—
  Upon completing the development of one or more initial redistricting plans, the Court shall make the plans available to the public at no cost, and shall also make available the underlying data used by the Court to develop the plans and a written evaluation of the plans against external metrics (as described in section 203(d)).
- (2) Publication of final plan.—At any time after the expiration of the 14-day period which begins on the date the Court makes the plans available to the public under paragraph (1), and taking into consideration any submissions and comments by

- 1 the public which are received during such period, the
- 2 Court shall develop and publish the final redis-
- 3 tricting plan for the State.
- 4 (e) Use of Interim Plan.—In the event that the
- 5 Court is not able to develop and publish a final redis-
- 6 tricting plan for the State with sufficient time for an up-
- 7 coming election to proceed, the Court may develop and
- 8 publish an interim redistricting plan which shall serve as
- 9 the redistricting plan for the State until the Court devel-
- 10 ops and publishes a final plan in accordance with this sec-
- 11 tion. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit
- 12 or otherwise affect the authority or discretion of the Court
- 13 to develop and publish the final redistricting plan, includ-
- 14 ing but not limited to the discretion to make any changes
- 15 the Court deems necessary to an interim redistricting
- 16 plan.
- 17 (f) Triggering Events Described.—The "trig-
- 18 gering events" described in this subsection are as follows:
- 19 (1) The failure of the State to establish or des-
- 20 ignate a nonpartisan agency of the State legislature
- 21 under section 204(a) prior to the expiration of the
- deadline set forth in section 204(a)(5).
- 23 (2) The failure of the State to appoint a Select
- Committee on Redistricting under section 204(b)

- prior to the expiration of the deadline set forth in section 204(b)(4).
- 3 (3) The failure of the Select Committee on Re-4 districting to approve any selection pool under sec-5 tion 202 prior to the expiration of the deadline set 6 forth for the approval of the second replacement se-7 lection pool in section 202(d)(2).
- 8 (4) The failure of the independent redistricting 9 commission of the State to approve a final redis-10 tricting plan for the State prior to the expiration of 11 the deadline set forth in section 203(e).

#### 12 SEC. 302. SPECIAL RULE FOR REDISTRICTING CONDUCTED

#### 13 UNDER ORDER OF FEDERAL COURT.

14 If a Federal court requires a State to conduct redis-15 tricting subsequent to an apportionment of Representatives in the State in order to comply with the Constitution 16 17 or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965, section 203 18 shall apply with respect to the redistricting, except that 19 the court may revise any of the deadlines set forth in such 20 section if the court determines that a revision is appro-21 priate in order to provide for a timely enactment of a new

redistricting plan for the State.

# 1 TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATIVE AND 2 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

2	MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
3	SEC. 401. PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CARRYING OUT RE-
4	DISTRICTING.
5	(a) Authorization of Payments.—Subject to sub-
6	section (d), not later than 30 days after a State receives
7	a State apportionment notice, the Election Assistance
8	Commission shall, subject to the availability of appropria-
9	tions provided pursuant to subsection (e), make a payment
10	to the State in an amount equal to the product of—
11	(1) the number of Representatives to which the
12	State is entitled, as provided under the notice; and
13	(2) \$150,000.
14	(b) Use of Funds.—A State shall use the payment
15	made under this section to establish and operate the
16	State's independent redistricting commission, to imple-
17	ment the State redistricting plan, and to otherwise carry
18	out congressional redistricting in the State.
19	(c) No Payment to States With Single Mem-
20	BER.—The Election Assistance Commission shall not
21	make a payment under this section to any State which
22	is not entitled to more than one Representative under its
23	State apportionment notice.
24	(d) Requiring Submission of Selection Pool as
25	CONDITION OF PAYMENT.—

- REQUIREMENT.—Except as provided in paragraph (2) and paragraph (3), the Election As-sistance Commission may not make a payment to a State under this section until the State certifies to the Commission that the nonpartisan agency estab-lished or designated by a State under section 204(a) has, in accordance with section 202(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to the Select Committee on Redis-tricting for the State established under section 204(b).
  - (2) EXCEPTION FOR STATES WITH EXISTING COMMISSIONS.—In the case of a State which, pursuant to section 101(c), is exempt from the requirements of section 101(a), the Commission may not make a payment to the State under this section until the State certifies to the Commission that its redistricting commission meets the requirements of section 101(c).
  - (3) EXCEPTION FOR STATE OF IOWA.—In the case of the State of Iowa, the Commission may not make a payment to the State under this section until the State certifies to the Commission that it will carry out congressional redistricting pursuant to the State's apportionment notice in accordance with a plan developed by the Iowa Legislative Services

- 1 Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Redis-
- 2 tricting Advisory Commission, as provided under the
- 3 law described in section 101(d).
- 4 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
- 5 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
- 6 necessary for payments under this section.

#### 7 SEC. 402. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.

- 8 (a) Civil Enforcement.—
- 9 (1) ACTIONS BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The At-
- torney General may bring a civil action in an appro-
- priate district court for such relief as may be appro-
- priate to carry out this subtitle.
- 13 (2) Availability of private right of ac-
- 14 TION.—Any citizen of a State who is aggrieved by
- the failure of the State to meet the requirements of
- this Act may bring a civil action in the United
- 17 States district court for the applicable venue for
- such relief as may be appropriate to remedy the fail-
- 19 ure. For purposes of this section, the "applicable
- venue" is the District of Columbia or the judicial
- 21 district in which the capital of the State is located,
- as selected by the person who brings the civil action.
- (b) Expedited Consideration.—In any action
- 24 brought forth under this section, the following rules shall
- 25 apply:

- 1 (1) The action shall be filed in the district court
  2 of the United States for the District of Columbia or
  3 for the judicial district in which the capital of the
  4 State is located, as selected by the person bringing
  5 the action.
  - (2) The action shall be heard by a 3-judge court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28, United States Code.
  - (3) The 3-judge court shall consolidate actions brought for relief under subsection (b)(1) with respect to the same State redistricting plan.
  - (4) A copy of the complaint shall be delivered promptly to the Clerk of the House of Representatives and the Secretary of the Senate.
  - (5) A final decision in the action shall be reviewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10 days, and the filing of a jurisdictional statement within 30 days, of the entry of the final decision.
  - (6) It shall be the duty of the district court and the Supreme Court of the United States to advance on the docket and to expedite to the greatest possible extent the disposition of the action and appeal.
- 25 (c) Remedies.—

1	(1) Adoption of replacement plan.—
2	(A) In general.—If the district court in
3	an action under this section finds that the con-
4	gressional redistricting plan of a State violates
5	in whole or in part, the requirements of this
6	Act—
7	(i) the Court shall adopt a replace
8	ment congressional redistricting plan for
9	the State in accordance with the process
10	set forth in section 301; or
11	(ii) if circumstances warrant and no
12	delay to an upcoming regularly scheduled
13	election for the House of Representatives
14	in the State would result, the district cour
15	may allow a State to develop and propose
16	a remedial congressional redistricting plan
17	for consideration by the court, and such
18	remedial plan may be developed by the
19	State by adopting such appropriate
20	changes to the State's enacted plan as may
21	be ordered by the court.
22	(B) SPECIAL RULE IN CASE FINAL ADJU-
23	DICATION NOT EXPECTED WITHIN 3 MONTHS
24	OF ELECTION.—If final adjudication of an ac

tion under this section is not reasonably ex-

pected to be completed at least three months

prior to the next regularly scheduled election

for the House of Representatives in the State,

the district court shall, as the balance of equi
ties warrant—

(i) order development, adoption, and

use of an interim congressional redis-

use of an interim congressional redistricting plan in accordance with section 301(e) to address any claims under this title for which a party seeking relief has demonstrated a substantial likelihood of success; or

(ii) order adjustments to the timing of primary elections for the House of Representatives, as needed, to allow sufficient opportunity for adjudication of the matter and adoption of a remedial or replacement plan for use in the next regularly scheduled general elections for the House of Representatives.

(2) No injunctive relief permitted.—Any remedial or replacement congressional redistricting plan ordered under this subsection shall not be subject to temporary or preliminary injunctive relief

- 1 from any court unless the record establishes that a 2 writ of mandamus is warranted.
- 3 NO STAY PENDING APPEAL.—Notwith-4 standing the appeal of an order finding that a con-5 gressional redistricting plan of a State violates, in 6 whole or in part, the requirements of this Act, no 7 stay shall issue which shall bar the development or 8 adoption of a replacement or remedial plan under 9 this subsection, as may be directed by the district 10 court, pending such appeal.
- 11 (d) ATTORNEY'S FEES.—In a civil action under this 12 section, the court may allow the prevailing party (other 13 than the United States) reasonable attorney fees, including litigation expenses, and costs. 14

#### (e) Relation to Other Laws.—

- 16 (1) Rights and remedies additional to 17 OTHER RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—The rights and 18 remedies established by this section are in addition 19 to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and 20 neither the rights and remedies established by this section nor any other provision of this Act shall su-22 persede, restrict, or limit the application of the Vot-23 ing Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.).
- 24 (2) VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965.—Nothing in 25 this Act authorizes or requires conduct that is pro-

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- 1 hibited by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C.
- 2 10301 et seq.).
- 3 (f) Legislative Privilege.—No person, legisla-
- 4 ture, or State may claim legislative privilege under either
- 5 State or Federal law in a civil action brought under this
- 6 section or in any other legal challenge, under either State
- 7 or Federal law, to a redistricting plan enacted under this
- 8 subtitle.

#### 9 SEC. 403. STATE APPORTIONMENT NOTICE DEFINED.

- In this Act, the "State apportionment notice" means,
- 11 with respect to a State, the notice sent to the State from
- 12 the Clerk of the House of Representatives under section
- 13 22(b) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fif-
- 14 teenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide
- 15 for an apportionment of Representatives in Congress", ap-
- 16 proved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), of the number of
- 17 Representatives to which the State is entitled.
- 18 SEC. 404. NO EFFECT ON ELECTIONS FOR STATE AND
- 19 LOCAL OFFICE.
- Nothing in this Act or in any amendment made by
- 21 this Act may be construed to affect the manner in which
- 22 a State carries out elections for State or local office, in-
- 23 cluding the process by which a State establishes the dis-
- 24 tricts used in such elections.

#### 1 SEC. 405. EFFECTIVE DATE.

- 2 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
- 3 apply with respect to redistricting carried out pursuant to
- 4 the decennial census conducted during 2030 or any suc-
- 5 ceeding decennial census.

# 6 TITLE V—REQUIREMENTS FOR

- 7 REDISTRICTING CARRIED
- 8 OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CEN-
- 9 **SUS**
- 10 Subtitle A—Application of Certain
- 11 Requirements for Redistricting
- 12 Carried Out Pursuant to 2020
- 13 **Census**
- 14 SEC. 501. APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR
- 15 REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO
- 16 **2020 CENSUS.**
- Notwithstanding section 405, titles I, III, and IV of
- 18 this Act and the amendments made by such titles shall
- 19 apply with respect to congressional redistricting carried
- 20 out pursuant to the decennial census conducted during
- 21 2020 in the same manner as such titles and the amend-
- 22 ments made by such titles apply with respect to redis-
- 23 tricting carried out pursuant to the decennial census con-
- 24 ducted during 2030, except as follows:

- 1 (1) Except as provided in subsection (c) and 2 subsection (d) of section 101, the redistricting shall 3 be conducted in accordance with—
  - (A) the redistricting plan developed and enacted into law by the independent redistricting commission established in the State in accordance with subtitle B; or
  - (B) if a plan developed by such commission is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan developed and enacted into law by a 3-judge court in accordance with section 301.
  - (2) If any of the triggering events described in section 502 occur with respect to the State, the United States district court for the applicable venue shall develop and publish the redistricting plan for the State, in accordance with section 301, not later than December 15, 2024.
  - (3) For purposes of section 401(d)(1), the Election Assistance Commission may not make a payment to a State under such section until the State certifies to the Commission that the nonpartisan agency established or designated by a State under section 514(a) has, in accordance with section 512(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to the Select

1 Committee on Redistricting for the State established 2 under section 514(b). SEC. 502. TRIGGERING EVENTS. 3 4 For purposes of the redistricting carried out pursuant 5 to the decennial census conducted during 2020, the triggering events described in this section are as follows: 6 7 (1) The failure of the State to establish or des-8 ignate a nonpartisan agency under section 514(a) 9 prior to the expiration of the deadline under section 10 514(a)(6). 11 (2) The failure of the State to appoint a Select 12 Committee on Redistricting under section 514(b) 13 prior to the expiration of the deadline under section 14 514(b)(4). 15 (3) The failure of the Select Committee on Re-16 districting to approve a selection pool under section 17 512(b) prior to the expiration of the deadline under 18 section 512(b)(7). 19 (4) The failure of the independent redistricting 20 commission of the State to approve a final redis-21 tricting plan for the State under section 513 prior 22 to the expiration of the deadline under section

513(e).

1	Subtitle B—Independent Redis-
2	tricting Commissions for Redis-
3	tricting Carried Out Pursuant
4	to 2020 Census
5	SEC. 511. USE OF INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS-
6	SIONS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT
7	PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS.
8	(a) Appointment of Members.—
9	(1) In general.—The nonpartisan agency es-
10	tablished or designated by a State under section
11	514(a) shall establish an independent redistricting
12	commission under this title for the State, which shall
13	consist of 15 members appointed by the agency as
14	follows:
15	(A) Not later than August 5, 2024, the
16	agency shall, at a public meeting held not ear-
17	lier than 15 days after notice of the meeting
18	has been given to the public, first appoint 6
19	members as follows:
20	(i) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
21	bers on a random basis from the majority
22	category of the approved selection pool (as
23	described in section $512(b)(1)(A)$ .
24	(ii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
25	bers on a random basis from the minority

1	category of the approved selection pool (as
2	described in section 512(b)(1)(B)).
3	(iii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
4	bers on a random basis from the inde-
5	pendent category of the approved selection
6	pool (as described in section 512(b)(1)(C)).
7	(B) Not later than August 15, 2024, the
8	members appointed by the agency under sub-
9	paragraph (A) shall, at a public meeting held
10	not earlier than 15 days after notice of the
11	meeting has been given to the public, then ap-
12	point 9 members as follows:
13	(i) The members shall appoint 3 mem-
14	bers from the majority category of the ap-
15	proved selection pool (as described in sec-
16	tion $512(b)(1)(A)$ ).
17	(ii) The members shall appoint 3
18	members from the minority category of the
19	approved selection pool (as described in
20	section $512(b)(1)(B)$ .
21	(iii) The members shall appoint 3
22	members from the independent category of
23	the approved selection pool (as described in
24	section $512(b)(1)(C)$ .

	(2)	Rules	FOR	APPOINTMENT	OF	MEMBERS
A	APPOINT	ED BY F	IRST I	MEMBERS.—		

- (A) AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF AT LEAST 4 MEMBERS.—The appointment of any of the 9 members of the independent redistricting commission who are appointed by the first members of the commission pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) shall require the affirmative vote of at least 4 of the members appointed by the nonpartisan agency under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), including at least one member from each of the categories referred to in such subparagraph.
- (B) Ensuring diversity.—In appointing the 9 members pursuant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), the first members of the independent redistricting commission shall ensure that the membership is representative of the demographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and provides racial, ethnic, and language minorities protected under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 with a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State's redistricting plan.

1	(3) Removal.—A member of the independent
2	redistricting commission may be removed by a ma-
3	jority vote of the remaining members of the commis-
4	sion if it is shown by a preponderance of the evi-
5	dence that the member is not eligible to serve on the
6	commission under section 512(a).
7	(b) Procedures for Conducting Commission
8	Business.—
9	(1) REQUIRING MAJORITY APPROVAL FOR AC-
10	TIONS.—The independent redistricting commission
11	of a State under this title may not publish and dis-
12	seminate any draft or final redistricting plan, or
13	take any other action, without the approval of at
14	least—
15	(A) a majority of the whole membership of
16	the commission; and
17	(B) at least one member of the commission
18	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-
19	proved selection pool described in section
20	512(b)(1).
21	(2) Quorum.—A majority of the members of
22	the commission shall constitute a quorum.
23	(c) Staff; Contractors.—
24	(1) Staff.—Under a public application process
25	in which all application materials are available for

- public inspection, the independent redistricting commission of a State under this title shall appoint and set the pay of technical experts, legal counsel, consultants, and such other staff as it considers appropriate, subject to State law.
  - (2) Contractors.—The independent redistricting commission of a State may enter into such contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate, subject to State law, except that any such contract shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a majority of the members of the commission, including at least one member appointed from each of the categories of the approved selection pool described in section 512(b)(1).
    - (3) Goal of impartiality.—The commission shall take such steps as it considers appropriate to ensure that any staff appointed under this subsection, and any vendor with whom the commission enters into a contract under this subsection, will work in an impartial manner.
- 21 (d) Preservation of Records.—The State shall 22 ensure that the records of the independent redistricting 23 commission are retained in the appropriate State archive 24 in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State

1	to respond to any civil action brought with respect to con-
2	gressional redistricting in the State.
3	SEC. 512. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDI-
4	VIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS
5	OF COMMISSION.
6	(a) Criteria for Eligibility.—
7	(1) In general.—An individual is eligible to
8	serve as a member of an independent redistricting
9	commission under this title if the individual meets
10	each of the following criteria:
11	(A) As of the date of appointment, the in-
12	dividual is registered to vote in elections for
13	Federal office held in the State.
14	(B) During the 3-year period ending on
15	the date of the individual's appointment, the in-
16	dividual has been continuously registered to
17	vote with the same political party, or has not
18	been registered to vote with any political party.
19	(C) The individual submits to the non-
20	partisan agency established or designated by a
21	State under section 514, at such time and in
22	such form as the agency may require, an appli-
23	cation for inclusion in the selection pool under
24	this section, and includes with the application a

written statement, with an attestation under

1	penalty of perjury, containing the following in-
2	formation and assurances:
3	(i) The full current name and any
4	former names of, and the contact informa-
5	tion for, the individual, including an elec-
6	tronic mail address, the address of the in-
7	dividual's residence, mailing address, and
8	telephone numbers.
9	(ii) The individual's race, ethnicity,
10	gender, age, date of birth, and household
11	income for the most recent taxable year.
12	(iii) The political party with which the
13	individual is affiliated, if any.
14	(iv) The reason or reasons the indi-
15	vidual desires to serve on the independent
16	redistricting commission, the individual's
17	qualifications, and information relevant to
18	the ability of the individual to be fair and
19	impartial, including, but not limited to—
20	(I) any involvement with, or fi-
21	nancial support of, professional, so-
22	cial, political, religious, or community
23	organizations or causes; or
24	(II) the individual's employment
25	and educational history.

1	(v) An assurance that the individual
2	shall commit to carrying out the individ-
3	ual's duties under this Act in an honest,
4	independent, and impartial fashion, and to
5	upholding public confidence in the integrity
6	of the redistricting process.
7	(vi) An assurance that, during such
8	covered period as the State may establish
9	with respect to any of the subparagraphs
10	of paragraph (2), the individual has not
11	taken and will not take any action which
12	would disqualify the individual from serv-
13	ing as a member of the commission under
14	such paragraph.
15	(2) Disqualifications.—An individual is not
16	eligible to serve as a member of the commission if
17	any of the following applies with respect to such cov-
18	ered period as the State may establish:
19	(A) The individual or an immediate family
20	member of the individual holds public office or
21	is a candidate for election for public office.
22	(B) The individual or an immediate family
23	member of the individual serves as an officer of
24	a political party or as an officer, employee, or

paid consultant of a campaign committee of a

- candidate for public office or of any political action committee (as determined in accordance with the law of the State).
  - (C) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual holds a position as a registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or an equivalent State or local law.
  - (D) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual is an employee of an elected public official, a contractor with the government of the State, or a donor to the campaign of any candidate for public office or to any political action committee (other than a donor who, during any of such covered periods, gives an aggregate amount of \$1,000 or less to the campaigns of all candidates for all public offices and to all political action committees).
  - (E) The individual paid a civil money penalty or criminal fine, or was sentenced to a term of imprisonment, for violating any provision of the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.).
  - (F) The individual or an immediate family member of the individual is an agent of a for-

1	eign principal under the Foreign Agents Reg-
2	istration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C.
3	611 et seq.).
4	(3) Immediate family member defined.—In
5	this subsection, the term "immediate family mem-
6	ber" means, with respect to an individual, a father,
7	stepfather, mother, stepmother, son, stepson, daugh-
8	ter, stepdaughter, brother, stepbrother, sister, step-
9	sister, husband, wife, father-in-law, or mother-in-
10	law.
11	(b) DEVELOPMENT AND SUBMISSION OF SELECTION
12	Pool.—
13	(1) In general.—Not later than July 15,
14	2024, the nonpartisan agency established or des-
15	ignated by a State under section 514(a) shall de-
16	velop and submit to the Select Committee on Redis-
17	tricting for the State established under section
18	514(b) a selection pool of 36 individuals who are eli-
19	gible to serve as members of the independent redis-
20	tricting commission of the State under this title,
21	consisting of individuals in the following categories:
22	(A) A majority category, consisting of 12
23	individuals who are affiliated with the political

party whose candidate received the most votes

in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.

- (B) A minority category, consisting of 12 individuals who are affiliated with the political party whose candidate received the second most votes in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
- (C) An independent category, consisting of 12 individuals who are not affiliated with either of the political parties described in subparagraph (A) or subparagraph (B).
- (2) Factors taken into account in Developing Pool.—In selecting individuals for the selection pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan agency shall—
  - (A) ensure that the pool is representative of the demographic groups (including racial, ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic regions of the State, and includes applicants who would allow racial, ethnic, and language minorities protected under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 a meaningful opportunity to participate in the development of the State's redistricting plan; and

- 1 (B) take into consideration the analytical
  2 skills of the individuals selected in relevant
  3 fields (including mapping, data management,
  4 law, community outreach, demography, and the
  5 geography of the State) and their ability to
  6 work on an impartial basis.
  - (3) DETERMINATION OF POLITICAL PARTY AF-FILIATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN SELECTION POOL.— For purposes of this section, an individual shall be considered to be affiliated with a political party only if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the greatest extent possible) the information the individual provides in the application submitted under subsection (a)(1)(C), including by considering additional information provided by other persons with knowledge of the individual's history of political activity.
  - (4) Encouraging residents to apply for inclusion in Pool.—The nonpartisan agency shall take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that residents of the State across various geographic regions and demographic groups are aware of the opportunity to serve on the independent redistricting commission, including publicizing the role of the panel and using newspapers, broadcast media, and

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- online sources, including ethnic media, to encourage individuals to apply for inclusion in the selection pool developed under this subsection.
  - (5) Report on Establishment of select Tion Pool.—At the time the nonpartisan agency submits the selection pool to the Select Committee on Redistricting under paragraph (1), it shall publish a report describing the process by which the pool was developed, and shall include in the report a description of how the individuals in the pool meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and of how the pool reflects the factors the agency is required to take into consideration under paragraph (2).
  - (6) Public comment on selection pool.—
    During the 14-day period which begins on the date the nonpartisan agency publishes the report under paragraph (5), the agency shall accept comments from the public on the individuals included in the selection pool. The agency shall transmit all such comments to the Select Committee on Redistricting immediately upon the expiration of such period.

## (7) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than August 1, 2024, the Select Committee on Redistricting shall—

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1	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
2	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
3	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
4	tion pool for purposes of section 511(a)(1);
5	$\operatorname{or}$
6	(ii) reject the pool, in which case the
7	redistricting plan for the State shall be de-
8	veloped and enacted in accordance with
9	title III.
10	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
11	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
12	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
13	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
14	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
15	for purposes of such subparagraph.
16	SEC. 513. CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING PLAN; PUBLIC NO-
17	TICE AND INPUT.
18	(a) Public Notice and Input.—
19	(1) Use of open and transparent proc-
20	ESS.—The independent redistricting commission of a
21	State under this title shall hold each of its meetings
22	in public, shall solicit and take into consideration
23	comments from the public, including proposed maps,
24	throughout the process of developing the redis-
25	tricting plan for the State, and shall carry out its

- duties in an open and transparent manner which provides for the widest public dissemination reasonably possible of its proposed and final redistricting plans.
  - (2) Public comment Period.—The commission shall solicit, accept, and consider comments from the public with respect to its duties, activities, and procedures at any time until 7 days before the date of the meeting at which the commission shall vote on approving the final redistricting plan for enactment into law under subsection (c)(2).
    - (3) Meetings and hearings in various geo-Graphic locations.—To the greatest extent practicable, the commission shall hold its meetings and hearings in various geographic regions and locations throughout the State.
    - (4) MULTIPLE LANGUAGE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL NOTICES.—The commission shall make each notice which is required to be published under this section available in any language in which the State (or any jurisdiction in the State) is required to provide election materials under section 203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
- 24 (b) Development and Publication of Prelimi-
- 25 NARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.—

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- (1) IN GENERAL.—Prior to developing and publishing a final redistricting plan under subsection (c), the independent redistricting commission of a State under this title shall develop and publish a preliminary redistricting plan.
  - (2) Minimum public hearings and opportunity for comment prior to development.—
    - (A) 2 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—Prior to developing a preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, the commission shall hold not fewer than 2 public hearings at which members of the public may provide input and comments regarding the potential contents of redistricting plans for the State and the process by which the commission will develop the preliminary plan under this subsection.
    - (B) Notice prior to hearings.—The commission shall provide for the publication of notices of each hearing held under this paragraph, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the hearing.
    - (C) Submission of Plans and Maps by members of the public.—Any member of

the public may submit maps or portions of maps for consideration by the commission.

- (3) Publication of Preliminary Plan.—The commission shall provide for the publication of the preliminary redistricting plan developed under this subsection, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State, and shall make publicly available a report that includes the commission's responses to any public comments received under this subsection.
- (4) Public comment after publication.—
  The commission shall accept and consider comments from the public with respect to the preliminary redistricting plan published under paragraph (3), including proposed revisions to maps, until 14 days before the date of the meeting under subsection (c)(2) at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final redistricting plan for enactment into law.

## (5) Post-publication hearings.—

(A) 2 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—After publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under paragraph (3), and not later than 14 days before the date of the meeting under subsection (c)(2) at which the members of the commission

- shall vote on approving the final redistricting plan for enactment into law, the commission shall hold not fewer than 2 public hearings in different geographic areas of the State at which members of the public may provide input and comments regarding the preliminary plan.
  - (B) Notice prior to hearings.—The commission shall provide for the publication of notices of each hearing held under this paragraph, including in newspapers of general circulation throughout the State. Each such notice shall specify the date, time, and location of the hearing.
  - (6) PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY PLANS.—At the option of the commission, after developing and publishing the preliminary redistricting plan under this subsection, the commission may develop and publish subsequent preliminary redistricting plans, so long as the process for the development and publication of each such subsequent plan meets the requirements set forth in this subsection for the development and publication of the first preliminary redistricting plan.
- (c) Process for Enactment of Final Redis-
- 25 TRICTING PLAN.—

- (1) IN GENERAL.—After taking into consideration comments from the public on any preliminary redistricting plan developed and published under subsection (b), the independent redistricting commission of a State under this title shall develop and publish a final redistricting plan for the State.
  - (2) MEETING; FINAL VOTE.—Not later than the deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission shall hold a public hearing at which the members of the commission shall vote on approving the final plan for enactment into law.
  - (3) Publication of Plan and accompanying Materials.—Not fewer than 14 days before the date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the commission shall make the following information to the public, including through newspapers of general circulation throughout the State:
    - (A) The final redistricting plan, including all relevant maps.
    - (B) A report by the commission to accompany the plan which provides the background for the plan and the commission's reasons for selecting the plan as the final redistricting plan, including responses to the public comments re-

1 ceived on any preliminary redistricting plan de-2 veloped and published under subsection (b). 3 (C) Any dissenting or additional views with 4 respect to the plan of individual members of the commission. 6 (4) ENACTMENT.—The final redistricting plan 7 developed and published under this subsection shall 8 be deemed to be enacted into law upon the expira-9 tion of the 45-day period which begins on the date on which— 10 11 (A) such final plan is approved by a major-12 ity of the whole membership of the commission; 13 and 14 (B) at least one member of the commission 15 appointed from each of the categories of the ap-16 proved selection pool described in section 17 512(b)(1) approves such final plan. 18 (d) Written Evaluation of Plan Against Ex-19 TERNAL METRICS.—The independent redistricting com-20 mission of a State under this title shall include with each 21 redistricting plan developed and published under this sec-22 tion a written evaluation that measures each such plan 23 against external metrics which cover the criteria set forth section 103(a), including the impact of the plan on the

ability of communities of color to elect candidates of

1	choice, measures of partisan fairness using multiple ac-
2	cepted methodologies, and the degree to which the plan
3	preserves or divides communities of interest.
4	(e) DEADLINE.—The independent redistricting com-
5	mission of a State under this title shall approve a final
6	redistricting plan for the State not later than November
7	15, 2024.
8	SEC. 514. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES.
9	(a) Establishment or Designation of Non-
10	PARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—
11	(1) In general.—Each State shall establish a
12	nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of the
13	State government to appoint the members of the
14	independent redistricting commission for the State
15	under this title in accordance with section 511.
16	(2) Nonpartisanship described.—For pur-
17	poses of this subsection, an agency shall be consid-
18	ered to be nonpartisan if under law the agency—
19	(A) is required to provide services on a
20	nonpartisan basis;
21	(B) is required to maintain impartiality;
22	and
23	(C) is prohibited from advocating for the
24	adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.

- 1 (3) Designation of existing agency.—At
  2 its option, a State may designate an existing agency
  3 in the legislative branch of its government to appoint
  4 the members of the independent redistricting com5 mission plan for the State under this Act, so long
  6 as the agency meets the requirements for non7 partisanship under this subsection.
  - (4) TERMINATION OF AGENCY SPECIFICALLY ESTABLISHED FOR REDISTRICTING.—If a State does not designate an existing agency under paragraph (3) but instead establishes a new agency to serve as the nonpartisan agency under this section, the new agency shall terminate upon the enactment into law of the redistricting plan for the State.
  - (5) Preservation of records.—The State shall ensure that the records of the nonpartisan agency are retained in the appropriate State archive in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State to respond to any civil action brought with respect to congressional redistricting in the State.
- 21 (6) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the requirements of this subsection not later than June 1, 2024.
- 24 (b) Establishment of Select Committee on Re-

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1	(1) In General.—Each State shall appoint a
2	Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or dis-
3	approve a selection pool developed by the inde-
4	pendent redistricting commission for the State under
5	this title under section 512.
6	(2) Appointment.—The Select Committee on
7	Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall
8	consist of the following members:
9	(A) One member of the upper house of the
10	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
11	leader of the party with the greatest number of
12	seats in the upper house.
13	(B) One member of the upper house of the
14	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
15	leader of the party with the second greatest
16	number of seats in the upper house.
17	(C) One member of the lower house of the
18	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
19	leader of the party with the greatest number of
20	seats in the lower house.
21	(D) One member of the lower house of the
22	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
23	leader of the party with the second greatest

number of seats in the lower house.

- 1 (3) SPECIAL RULE FOR STATES WITH UNICAM2 ERAL LEGISLATURE.—In the case of a State with a
  3 unicameral legislature, the Select Committee on Re4 districting for the State under this subsection shall
  5 consist of the following members:
  - (A) Two members of the State legislature appointed by the chair of the political party of the State whose candidate received the highest percentage of votes in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
  - (B) Two members of the State legislature appointed by the chair of the political party whose candidate received the second highest percentage of votes in the most recent Statewide election for Federal office held in the State.
  - (4) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the requirements of this subsection not later than June 15, 2024.
  - (5) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this subsection may be construed to prohibit the leader of any political party in a legislature from appointment to the Select Committee on Redistricting.

1	SEC. 515. REPORT ON DIVERSITY OF MEMBERSHIPS OF
2	INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS-
3	SIONS.
4	Not later than November 15, 2024, the Comptroller
5	General of the United States shall submit to Congress a
6	report on the extent to which the memberships of inde-
7	pendent redistricting commissions for States established
8	under this title with respect to the immediately preceding
9	year ending in the numeral zero meet the diversity require-
10	ments as provided for in sections $511(a)(2)(B)$ and
11	512(b)(2).