

Statistical summaries of new law, including district variances from the ideal population of 42,561 and the range of those variances, as well as maps illustrating new district boundaries accompany this digest.

Existing constitution (Const. Art. III, §6(A)) requires the legislature, by the end of the year following the year in which the state's population is reported to the president of the United States for each decennial federal census, to reapportion the representation in each house as equally as practicable on the basis of population shown by the census.

Existing law (R.S. 24:35.5 enacted by Acts 2001, 2nd Ex. Sess., No. 3) divides the state into 105 districts for election of members of the House of Representatives.

New law (R.S. 24:35.5) redraws Districts 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 21, 62, 72, 73, 74, 75, 77, 82, 89, 91, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101, effective for election purposes with the opening of the qualifying period for the 2003 primary election for members of the legislature, all pursuant to the agreement of the parties in *The Louisiana House of Representatives, et al. v. John Ashcroft, et al.*, CA No. 1:02CV00062 (U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia).

New law retains existing law that specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions (in existing law and new law) are those adopted by the respective parish governing authorities under R.S. 18:532 and made effective not later than January 1, 2000, for the purpose of establishing block boundaries for the 2000 federal decennial census, except that for precincts changed by court order or ordinance as provided by existing law and validated by the legislature prior to June 23, 2001, reference is to precincts so changed and validated. Also retains existing law that specifies that if any such precinct has been subdivided on a nongeographic or geographic basis (under existing law), the general precinct designation in the district description includes all nongeographic and geographic subdivisions of the precinct. Further retains existing law that provides that the territorial limits of the House districts as enacted shall continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the parish registrar of voters or the parish governing authority.

New law additionally specifies that references to Precincts 44 and 44A in Tangipahoa Parish in new law are those adopted by the respective parish governing pursuant to existing law (R.S. 18:532.1), made effective for March 24, 2003, and contained in the precinct database of the Dept. of Elections and Registration as of March 24, 2003.

New law retains prior districts (R.S. 24:35.4) until 10:00 a.m., January 12, 2004, at which time prior law (R.S. 24:35.4) providing for House districts is repealed and new districts are effective for all purposes.

Effective upon signature of governor (May 7, 2003) (specifies that districts contained in prior law (R.S. 24:35.4) remain effective, except for 2003 election purposes, until 10:00 a.m., January 12, 2004). (Note: Provisions of Act No. 2 were precleared by the U. S. Dept. of Justice on May 20, 2003.)

Population counts in the summaries accompanying this digest are derived from Census 2000 Redistricting Data (P.L. 94-171), Summary File, Census of Population and Housing, Louisiana (U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, issued March 9, 2001), as validated and adjusted by staff of the Louisiana Legislature. Population data, statistical information, and maps are

supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part of new law text.

(Amends R.S. 24:35.5(A)(11), (12), (13), (19), (20), (21), (62), (72), (73), (74), (75), (77), (82), (89), (91), (93), (94), (95), (96), (97), (98), (99), (100), and (101) and (B))