
DIGEST

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Ponti

HB No. 6

Abstract: Provides for the redistricting of the state's congressional districts and provides for the composition of each of the six congressional districts. Effective for election purposes only for the regular congressional elections in 2012 and for all purposes on Jan. 3, 2013.

Statistical summaries of the proposed law, including district variances from the ideal population of 755,562 and the range of those variances, as well as maps illustrating proposed district boundaries accompany this digest. *(Attached to hard copies of the bill distributed during session and available as a separate document on the Internet.)*

Present U.S. Constitution (14th Amendment) provides that representatives in congress shall be apportioned among the several states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state. The U.S. Supreme Court has held that the population of congressional districts in the same state must be as nearly equal in population as practicable.

Present law divides the state into seven districts for election of Louisiana's representatives to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Proposed law redraws district boundaries for the six congressional districts, effective for election purposes with the opening of the qualifying period for the 2012 primary election for members of congress.

Proposed law specifies that precincts referenced in district descriptions are those precincts identified as Voting Districts (VTDs) in the 2010 Census Redistricting TIGER/Line Shapefiles for the state of La. Also specifies that if any such precinct has been subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a nongeographic basis or subdivided by action of the parish governing authority on a geographic basis in accordance with present law, the enumeration of the general precinct designation shall include all nongeographic and all geographic subdivisions thereof. Further provides that the territorial limits of the districts as enacted shall continue in effect without change regardless of any changes made to the precincts by the parish governing authority.

Proposed law specifies that the effectiveness of the law for 2012 election purposes does not reduce the term of congressmen elected at the 2010 congressional election or elected to fill a vacancy for the remainder of a term which began on Jan. 3, 2011. Further specifies that the provisions of proposed law shall not reduce the term of office of any person holding any position or office on the effective date of proposed law, for which the appointment or election is based

upon a congressional district as composed pursuant to present law. Specifies that any position or office filled after Jan. 3, 2013, for which the appointment or election is based on a congressional district shall be appointed or elected from a district as it is described in proposed law.

Proposed law retains present districts until noon on Jan. 3, 2013, at which time present law is repealed and proposed districts are effective for all purposes.

Population data in the summaries accompanying this digest are derived from 2010 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171), Summary File for Louisiana. Population data, statistical information, and maps are supplied for purposes of information and analysis and comprise no part of proposed law.

Effective for election purposes only for the regular congressional elections in 2012; effective for all purposes on Jan. 3, 2013.

(Adds R.S. 18:1276.1; Repeals R.S. 18:1276)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on House and Governmental Affairs to the original bill.

1. Makes changes to congressional districts 1, 3, 4, 5, and 6.
2. Moves precincts in Acadia Parish from district 4 to district 3.
3. Moves precincts in Bienville Parish from district 5 to district 4.
4. Moves precincts in Claiborne Parish from district 5 to district 4.
5. Moves precincts in Grant Parish from district 5 to district 4.
6. Moves one precinct in Jefferson Davis Parish from district 3 to district 4.
7. Moves precincts in Rapides from district 4 to district 5.
8. Moves precincts in St. Landry Parish from district 5 to district 4.
9. Moves precincts in St. Martin Parish from district 3 to district 5.
10. Moves precincts in St. Tammany Parish from district 1 to district 6.
11. Moves precincts in Tangipahoa Parish from districts 5 and 6 to districts 6 and 1.
12. Moves precincts in Washington Parish from district 6 to district 5.
13. Moves precincts in West Baton Rouge Parish from district 5 to district 6.

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Makes changes to all congressional districts.