

2020 First Extraordinary Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 14

BY REPRESENTATIVES FREEMAN AND IVEY

JOINT RULES: Provides for the Redistricting Transparency Website

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To adopt Joint Rule No. 21 of the Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives
3 to require the development and maintenance of an internet site to provide
4 information regarding the redistricting activities of the legislature; to provide for
5 minimum content for the site; to provide relative to certain capabilities of the site;
6 and to provide for the duties of the presiding officers of the legislature relative
7 thereto.

8 BE IT RESOLVED by the Legislature of Louisiana that Joint Rule No. 21 of the
9 Joint Rules of the Senate and House of Representatives is hereby adopted to read as follows:

10 Joint Rule No. 21. Redistricting transparency website

11 A. The speaker of the House of Representatives and the president of the
12 Senate, acting jointly, shall provide for and maintain a public internet site to enable
13 the public to obtain information regarding the redistricting activities of the House of
14 Representatives, the Senate, and the legislature. The speaker of the House of
15 Representatives and the president of the Senate shall make every effort to ensure that
16 the site has an easy to remember domain name and that the functionality on the site
17 is as intuitive as possible.

18 B. The legislative redistricting site required by Paragraph A of this Rule shall
19 at a minimum:

1 (1) Provide advance and timely information regarding legislative
2 redistricting meetings and activities, including a timeline for the redistricting
3 process.

4 (2) Provide links to the most recent population data from the United States
5 Bureau of the Census.

6 (3) Provide links to the most recent voter registration and election statistics
7 from the Department of State.

8 (4) Permit any person to download the precinct shapefiles that will be used
9 by the legislature to accomplish its redistricting tasks.

10 (5) Permit any person to submit comments and questions regarding any
11 proposed redistricting plan to be acted upon by the legislature.

12 (6) Provide access to proposed redistricting bills as well as any maps or
13 statistics accompanying those bills.

14 (7) Provide information regarding the laws impacting the redistricting
15 process.

16 (8) Provide concise, easy to understand answers to common questions
17 regarding redistricting and the process in Louisiana.

18 (9) Provide a mechanism for a person to register to receive notifications
19 regarding redistricting meetings and legislation.

20 C. If the legislative redistricting site is temporarily inaccessible due to a
21 technical problem or difficulty beyond the control of the presiding officers of the
22 legislature, the temporary inaccessibility of information on the legislative
23 redistricting site shall not be construed in any manner to be a violation of the
24 provisions of Paragraph A or B of this Rule.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

Abstract: Requires the presiding officers to provide for and maintain a public internet site related to redistricting activities of the legislature and requires specified minimum content and capability.

Proposed Joint Rule requires the speaker of the House and the president of the Senate, acting jointly, to provide for and maintain a public internet site to enable the public to obtain information regarding the redistricting activities of the House, the Senate, and the legislature. Requires the presiding officers to make every effort to ensure that the site has an easy to remember domain name and that the functionality on the site is as intuitive as possible. Requires the site, at a minimum, to:

- (1) Provide advance information regarding legislative redistricting meetings and activities and a timeline.
- (2) Provide links to the census population data and voter registration and election statistics.
- (3) Permit any person to download specified precinct shapefiles.
- (4) Permit any person to submit comments and questions regarding proposed redistricting plans.
- (5) Provide access to proposed redistricting bills and accompanying maps or statistics.
- (6) Provide information regarding redistricting-related laws.
- (7) Provide concise, easy to understand answers to common redistricting questions.
- (8) Allow a person to register to receive notifications regarding redistricting meetings and legislation.

Proposed Joint Rule specifies that if the legislative redistricting site is temporarily inaccessible due to a technical problem or difficulty beyond the control of the presiding officers, the temporary inaccessibility of information on the legislative redistricting site shall not be construed in any manner to be a violation of the proposed Joint Rule.

(Adds Joint Rule No. 21)