

AMENDMENTS TO LB 402

Introduced by Schimek, 27.

1 1. Strike the original sections and insert the following
2 new sections:

3 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as
4 the Redistricting Act.

5 Sec. 2. For purposes of the Redistricting Act:

6 (1) Committee means the Redistricting Committee of the
7 Legislature;

8 (2) Director means the Director of Research of the
9 Legislature or his or her designee;

10 (3) Executive board means the Executive Board of the
11 Legislative Council;

12 (4) Other district means a legislative district, supreme
13 court judicial district, public service commission district, board
14 of regents district, or state board of education district; and

15 (5) Redistricting plan means a plan for congressional
16 districts and other districts prepared pursuant to the requirements
17 of the act.

18 Sec. 3. (1) The Redistricting Committee of the
19 Legislature shall be established as a special committee of
20 the Legislature in each year ending in one. The committee may
21 introduce and exercise jurisdiction over legislative bills and
22 resolutions relating to redistricting and hold hearings regarding
23 such legislation.

1 (2) The committee shall be comprised of nine members of
2 the Legislature, three from each congressional district existing
3 on January 1 of each year ending in zero. The executive board
4 shall appoint the members of the committee in January of each year
5 ending in one. No more than five members appointed to the committee
6 shall be affiliated with the same political party. A vacancy on
7 the committee shall be filled by the executive board as soon as
8 possible after the vacancy occurs.

9 (3) At the first meeting of the committee, the members
10 shall select from among themselves by majority vote one member
11 to serve as chairperson of the committee and one member to serve
12 as vice-chairperson of the committee. The chairperson and the
13 vice-chairperson shall not be affiliated with the same political
14 party.

15 (4) The committee shall continue in existence until
16 all legislative bills containing redistricting plans for which
17 the Legislature has responsibility are passed and signed by the
18 Governor. In the event of a successful legal challenge to any
19 part of a redistricting plan, the committee shall be reconstituted
20 according to the Redistricting Act for purposes of reformulating
21 the challenged redistricting plan.

22 (5) The committee shall receive staff support from the
23 office of the director.

24 Sec. 4. (1) The committee shall be responsible for
25 administering the Redistricting Act.

26 (2) (a) After reviewing previous redistricting guidelines
27 used by the Legislature, the committee shall adopt substantive and

1 procedural guidelines, consistent with the act, that will guide the
2 Legislature's redistricting process. During the legislative session
3 of each year ending in one, the substantive guidelines adopted by
4 the committee shall be presented to the Legislature for approval.

5 (b) The committee shall at the earliest feasible time
6 make available to the public the guidelines prepared under this
7 section.

8 Sec. 5. The committee shall introduce legislative bills
9 pertaining to redistricting congressional districts and other
10 districts during the legislative session of each year ending
11 in one. The bills shall be processed utilizing the normal
12 procedures established for processing legislation introduced in
13 the Legislature.

14 Sec. 6. (1) Under the direction of the committee, the
15 director shall (a) acquire appropriate information, (b) review
16 and evaluate available facilities, and (c) develop programs and
17 procedures for preparing redistricting plans on the basis of each
18 federal decennial census. Funds shall be expended for the purchase
19 or lease of equipment and materials only with prior approval of the
20 chairperson of the executive board.

21 (2) By December 31 of each year ending in zero,
22 the director shall obtain from the United States Department of
23 Commerce, Bureau of the Census, information regarding geographic
24 and political units in this state for which federal census
25 population data has been gathered and will be tabulated.

26 Sec. 7. Based upon the information received from the
27 United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, the

1 committee shall formulate redistricting plans for congressional
2 districts and other districts. The redistricting plans shall be
3 made available to the Legislature and the public.

4 Sec. 8. (1) After the redistricting plans formulated
5 under section 7 of this act are made available to the Legislature
6 and the public, the committee shall schedule and conduct, as
7 expeditiously as reasonably possible, at least one public hearing
8 in each congressional district for the purposes of soliciting input
9 on the proposed redistricting plans. Video and other methods may be
10 used in addition to the procedures outlined for public hearings but
11 not in substitution for such procedures.

12 (2) Following the public hearings, the committee shall
13 proceed to process the legislative bills introduced under section 5
14 of this act.