

ONE HUNDRED SECOND LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2012
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB1133

Hearing Date: Tuesday February 14, 2012
Committee On: Executive Board
Introducer: Avery
One Liner: Adopt the Redistricting Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Indefinitely postponed

Vote Results:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Aye: | 5 | Senators Christensen, Flood, Langemeier, Nelson, Wightman |
| Nay: | 1 | Senator Karpisek |
| Absent: | 2 | Senators Fischer, Pahls |
| Present Not Voting: | 1 | Senator Lathrop |

Proponents:

Senator Bill Avery
Jack Gould

Representing:

Introducer
Common Cause Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Representing:

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

Section-by-section Summary of the bill:

Section 1.

Creates the Redistricting Act.

Section 2.

Intent section.

Sections 3 to 15.

Sets forth definitions.

Section 16.

Sets forth several duties for the Director of Legislative Research to perform in order to assist the Independent Redistricting Advisory Commission

Section 17.

Calls for the creation of a six-member Independent Redistricting Advisory Commission, two from each legislative caucus who do not have the same political affiliation.

Section 18.

Creates the Redistricting Fund to be used to support the commission.

Section 19.

The commission ceases to exist following final legislative approval and the Governor's signature, or judicial approval, if applicable, of the redistricting plans. The Director of Research shall submit a report and financial statement when the commission's work is done.

Section 20.

Sets forth the eligibility requirements for members of the commission.

Section 21.

Provides restrictions for members of the commission while serving on the commission and for two years after the latest effective date of any bill passed pursuant to the Redistricting Act.

Section 22.

Sets forth the appointment and removal process for members of the commission. In addition, each candidate for the commission must file a statement of financial interests and conflict of interest statement with the Accountability & Disclosure Commission.

Section 23.

The commission is charged with adopting substantive and procedural guidelines, holding hearings in different geographic regions of the state, preparing a report to the Executive Board summarizing information and testimony received, and formulating redistricting plans for the respective districts, not to exceed four.

Section 24.

In preparing the redistricting plans, the commission shall not consider political party affiliation of registered voters, previous elections results, demographic data, incumbent addresses, or other individual or group addresses. The boundaries shall be compact and contiguous and protect county, city and core communities whenever practicable. Lines shall not be drawn so as to dilute, augment, fracture, or pack any voting majority or minority based on race or language.

Section 25.

Sets forth the specific criteria to be considered when the Legislature reviews and approves boundaries for the United States House of Representatives, the Legislature, the Supreme Court, Board of Regents, Public Service Commission, and State Board of Education.

Section 26.

The commission shall deliver to the Executive Board the six commission-approved legislative bills embodying the redistricting plan and public hearing reports. Following at least four statewide public hearings on the six bills, the Legislature shall vote on the bills. No amendments shall be allowed, except E&R amendments.

The section also sets forth the process if a bill is rejected by the Legislature or Governor.

Section 27 and 28.

Adds the reporting of financial interests and conflict of interest statements to current Accountability & Disclosure sections of law.

Section 29.

Severability clause.

Section 30.

Repeals original sections.

John Wightman, Chairperson