



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3581

Introduced 2/22/2021, by Rep. Kelly M. Cassidy

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 120/5-15 new

Amends the Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011. Provides that no later than January 31st of the year immediately following the federal decennial census, the General Assembly shall establish a Special Joint-House and Senate Redistricting Committee to develop and finalize a redistricting plan for Legislative Districts and Representative Districts. Provides that the Committee shall consist of 12 members appointed by the General Assembly. Provides the priorities and requirements for Legislative Districts and Representative Districts. Requires the Committee to hold public hearings and make data used to create the plan available for the public. Provides that before a redistricting plan may be adopted, the Committee shall adopt and publish a report explaining the plan's compliance with federal and State law. Effective immediately.

LRB102 10339 SMS 15666 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011 is
5 amended by adding Section 5-15 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 120/5-15 new)

7 Sec. 5-15. Redistricting transparency.

8 (a) A redistricting plan pursuant to Article IV, Section 3
9 of the Illinois Constitution shall be drawn subject to
10 subsection (b) to form a Special Joint-House and Senate
11 Redistricting Committee; subject to subsection (c) to
12 establish ranked criteria for the Committee to consider when
13 drawing the map; subject to subsection (d) to require a public
14 hearing before and after a map proposal is released; and
15 subject to subsection (e) to create a website, accessible to
16 the general public, to post all documents, data, testimony,
17 and proposed maps and to livestream hearings; subject to
18 subsection (f) to utilize data provided by the Secretary of
19 State's office to count residents of correctional facilities
20 at their last known address before incarceration for
21 redistricting purposes.

22 (b) No later than January 31st of the year immediately
23 following the federal decennial census, the General Assembly

1 shall establish a Special Joint-House and Senate Redistricting
2 Committee. The Speaker of the House of Representatives and
3 Minority Leader of the House of Representative shall each
4 appoint 3 members of the House of Representatives to serve on
5 the Committee. The President of the Senate and Minority Leader
6 of the Senate shall each appoint 3 members of the Senate to
7 serve on the Committee.

8 (c) Each Legislative District and Representative District
9 shall, in the following order of priority:

10 (1) fully comply with the United States Constitution
11 and federal laws, such as the federal Voting Rights Act;

12 (2) be substantially equal in population based on the
13 total amount of inhabitants according to the last
14 preceding federal decennial census;

15 (3) provide racial minorities and language minorities
16 with the equal opportunity to participate in the political
17 process and elect candidates of their choice;

18 (4) fully comply with this Act to provide racial
19 minorities and language minorities who constitute less
20 than a voting-age majority of a Legislative District or
21 Representative District with an opportunity to
22 substantially influence the outcome of an election through
23 the creation of crossover districts, coalition districts,
24 or influence districts as defined by this Act;

25 (5) be contiguous;

26 (6) be compact;

1 (7) respect, to the extent practical, geographic
2 integrity of units of local government;

3 (8) respect, to the extent practical, communities
4 sharing common social or economic interests; and

5 (9) not discriminate against or in favor of any
6 political party or individual.

7 (d) The Committee shall hold at least 35 public hearings
8 throughout the State before proposing a redistricting plan.

9 (e) The Committee must provide a meaningful opportunity
10 for racial minorities and language minorities to participate
11 in the public hearings, including, but not limited to, issuing
12 notices in multiple languages and ensuring that translation
13 services are available at all hearings at the Committee's
14 expense or through partnership with outside organizations.
15 These public hearings shall be open to all members of the
16 public and public notice shall be made at least 7 days in
17 advance to encourage attendance and participation across the
18 State, including the use of technology that allows for
19 real-time, virtual participation and feedback during the
20 hearings. When releasing a proposed redistricting plan, the
21 Committee must release population data, geographic data,
22 election data, precinct boundaries, and any other data used to
23 create the plan, within 72 hours. The Committee must provide
24 terminals for members of the public to access the data and
25 associated software. During the map drawing process, any
26 member of the public may submit maps for consideration to the

1 Committee. The Committee must consider public input and
2 respond to it. Those submissions are public records that are
3 open to comment.

4 The Committee may not adopt a redistricting plan until the
5 Committee adopts and publishes a report explaining the plan's
6 compliance with the United States Constitution, the Illinois
7 Constitution, and this Section. Before the adoption of a
8 redistricting plan, the Committee shall release to the public
9 the final plan and its associated compliance report. The
10 Committee shall hold at least 5 public hearings after the
11 release of the final plan and associated compliance report
12 prior to a vote being taken. The meeting to vote on adoption of
13 a redistricting plan shall occur no sooner than 15 days after
14 the release of the final plan and its associated compliance
15 report. All proposed and adopted maps and any data used to
16 develop these maps are public records. The Committee shall
17 maintain a website or other similar electronic platform to
18 disseminate information about the Committee, including records
19 of its meetings and hearings, proposed redistricting plans,
20 assessments, and reports on plans, and allow the public to
21 view its meetings and hearings in both live and archived form.
22 The website or electronic platform must allow the public to
23 submit redistricting plans and comments on redistricting plans
24 to the Committee for its consideration.

25 (f) Nothing in this Section shall be construed, applied,
26 or implemented in a way that imposes any requirement or

1 obligation that conflicts with the United States Constitution,
2 any federal law regarding redistricting Legislative Districts
3 or Representative Districts, including, but not limited to,
4 the federal Voting Rights Act, or the Illinois Constitution.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
6 becoming law.