

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1978

By: Representative Love

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE FOUR (4) UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN ARKANSAS FOR 2021-2030; TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH THE GEOGRAPHIC BOUNDARIES OF THE FOUR (4) UNITED STATES CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS IN ARKANSAS FOR 2021-2030; AND TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 7-2-102 is amended to read as follows:
7-2-102. First Congressional District.

(a) The First Congressional District shall be composed of:

~~(1) The~~ the counties of Arkansas, ~~Baxter,~~ Ashley, Bradley, Chicot, Clay, ~~Gleburne,~~ Cleveland, Craighead, Crittenden, Cross, Desha, Drew, Fulton, Grant, Greene, Independence, ~~Izard,~~ Jackson, Jefferson, Lawrence, Lee, Lincoln, ~~Lonoke,~~ Mississippi, Monroe, Phillips, ~~Prairie,~~ Poinsett, Prairie, Randolph, St. Francis, Sharp, ~~Stone,~~ White and Woodruff;

~~(2) The following voting districts of Jefferson County as they existed on January 1, 2011:~~

~~(A) 19 (Dunnington) voting district;~~

~~(B) P15 (Dudley Lake) voting district;~~

~~(C) 25 (Old River) voting district;~~

~~(D) 57 (Villemont) voting district;~~



- ~~(E) P91 (Roberts) voting district;~~
- ~~(F) P851 (Humphrey) voting district; and~~
- ~~(G) P862 (Humphrey) voting district; and~~

~~(3) The voting districts and voting precincts of Searcy County as they existed on January 1, 2011, that are not listed under § 7-2-104(a)(4).~~

(b) The qualified electors residing in the counties ~~and portion of Jefferson County and Searcy County~~ listed under subsection (a) of this section shall elect one (1) member of the United States House of Representatives.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 7-2-103 is amended to read as follows:

7-2-103. Second Congressional District.

(a) The Second Congressional District shall be composed of the counties of Conway, Faulkner, Lonoke, Perry, Pulaski, and Saline, ~~Van Buren, and White.~~

(b) The qualified electors residing in the counties listed under subsection (a) of this section shall elect one (1) member of the United States House of Representatives.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 7-2-104 is amended to read as follows:

7-2-104. Third Congressional District.

(a) The Third Congressional District shall be composed of+

~~(1) The~~ the counties of Baxter, Benton, Boone, Carroll, Cleburne, Izard, Madison, Marion, Newton, Pope, Searcy, Stone, Van Buren, and Washington;

~~(2) The voting districts and voting precincts of Crawford County as they existed on January 1, 2011, that are not listed under § 7-2-105(a)(2);~~

~~(3) The following voting districts of Newton County as they existed on January 1, 2011:~~

- ~~(A) Big Creek voting district;~~
- ~~(B) Dogpatch voting district;~~
- ~~(C) Grove voting district;~~
- ~~(D) Hasty voting district;~~
- ~~(E) Polk voting district;~~

~~(F) Richland voting district; and~~

~~(G) White voting district;~~

~~(4) The Prairie voting district of Searey County as it existed on January 1, 2011; and~~

~~(5) The voting districts and voting precincts of Sebastian County as they existed on January 1, 2011, that are not listed under § 7-2-105(a)(5).~~

(b) The qualified electors residing in the counties ~~and portions of Crawford County, Newton County, Searey County, and Sebastian County~~ listed under subsection (a) of this section shall elect one (1) member of the United States House of Representatives.

SECTION 4. Arkansas Code § 7-2-105 is amended to read as follows:

7-2-105. Fourth Congressional District.

(a) The Fourth Congressional District shall be composed of:

~~(1) The~~ the counties of ~~Ashley, Bradley,~~ Calhoun, Clark, ~~Cleveland,~~ Columbia, Crawford, Dallas, ~~Drew,~~ Franklin, Garland, ~~Grant,~~ Hempstead, Hot Spring, Howard, Johnson, Lafayette, Little River, Logan, ~~Madison,~~ Miller, Montgomery, Nevada, Ouachita, Pike, Polk, Pope, Scott, Sebastian, Sevier, Union, and Yell;

~~(2) The following voting districts of Crawford County as they existed on January 1, 2011:~~

~~(A) Alma # 1 voting district;~~

~~(B) Alma # 4 voting district;~~

~~(C) Bidville voting district;~~

~~(D) Chester voting district;~~

~~(E) Dean Springs voting district;~~

~~(F) Dyer voting district;~~

~~(G) Eagle Crest voting district;~~

~~(H) Kibler voting district;~~

~~(I) Locke voting district;~~

~~(J) Mountain voting district;~~

~~(K) Mulberry # 1 voting district;~~

~~(L) Mulberry # 2 voting district;~~

~~(M) Mulberry # 3 voting district;~~

~~(N) Porter voting district;~~

~~(O) Vine Prairie voting district;~~

~~(P) Whitley voting district; and~~

~~(Q) Winfrey voting district;~~

~~(3) The voting districts and voting precincts of Jefferson County as they existed on January 1, 2011, that are not listed under § 7-2-102(a)(2);~~

~~(4) The voting districts and voting precincts of Newton County as they existed on January 1, 2011, that are not listed under § 7-2-104(a)(3); and~~

~~(5) The following voting districts of Sebastian County as they existed on January 1, 2011:~~

~~(A) 9-1-A voting district;~~

~~(B) 9-1-B voting district;~~

~~(C) 9-1-C voting district;~~

~~(D) 9-1-D voting district;~~

~~(E) 9-1-E voting district;~~

~~(F) 9-1-Q voting district;~~

~~(G) 9-2-E voting district;~~

~~(H) 9-3-E voting district;~~

~~(I) 9-3-F voting district;~~

~~(J) 9-3-G voting district;~~

~~(K) 9-3-H voting district;~~

~~(L) 9-3-I voting district;~~

~~(M) 9-3-J voting district;~~

~~(N) 9-3-K voting district;~~

~~(O) 9-3-L voting district; and~~

~~(P) 9-3-M voting district.~~

~~(b) The qualified electors residing in the counties and portions of Crawford County, Jefferson County, Newton County, and Sebastian County listed under subsection (a) of this section shall elect one (1) member of the United States House of Representatives.~~

SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is found and determined by the General Assembly of the State of Arkansas that the General Assembly is responsible for establishing the four (4) United States Congressional Districts in the state; that the United States Congressional Districts are

based on the information provided by the federal decennial census by the United States Bureau of the Census; that the federal decennial census data delivery was delayed; that the establishment of the four (4) United States Congressional Districts is necessary to provide equal representation of the citizens of Arkansas in the United States Congress; and that this act is immediately necessary because the establishment of the four (4) United States Congressional Districts must occur in adequate time for the candidates to file for office and for the citizens of Arkansas to have a fair election. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist, and this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety shall become effective on:

(1) The date of its approval by the Governor;

(2) If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, the expiration of the period of time during which the Governor may veto the bill; or

(3) If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the veto is overridden, the date the last house overrides the veto.