

By: Davis

H.B. No. 1610

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the composition of districts for the election of
3 members of the Texas House of Representatives.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to fulfill the
6 legislature's duty under Section 28, Article III, Texas
7 Constitution, to redraw the districts for the election of the
8 members of the Texas House of Representatives in compliance with
9 the United States and Texas Constitutions and applicable federal
10 law following the publication of the 2020 federal decennial census.

11 SECTION 2. The districts from which the members of the Texas
12 House of Representatives are elected are the districts as provided
13 by law and used for the election of the members of the House of
14 Representatives of the 87th Legislature except as those districts
15 are changed by Section 3 of this Act.

16 SECTION 3. (a) San Augustine County is transferred from
17 House District 57 to House District 11.

18 (b) Hood County is transferred from House District 60 to
19 House District 59.

20 (c) Sherman County is transferred from House District 87 to
21 House District 86.

22 (d) Bexar County Precinct 4137 is transferred from House
23 District 119 to House District 118.

24 SECTION 4. In this Act, "tract," "block group," and "block"

1 mean the geographic areas identified by those terms on the 2010
2 Census TIGER/Line Shapefiles, prepared by the federal Bureau of the
3 Census for the Twenty-third Decennial Census of the United States,
4 enumerated as of April 1, 2010.

5 SECTION 5. It is the intent of the legislature that if any
6 county, tract, block group, block, or other geographic area has
7 erroneously been left out of this Act, a court reviewing this Act
8 should include that area in the appropriate district in accordance
9 with the intent of the legislature, using any available evidence of
10 that intent, including evidence such as that used by the Supreme
11 Court of Texas in Smith v. Patterson, 111 Tex. 535, 242 S.W. 749
12 (1922).

13 SECTION 6. (a) This Act supersedes all previous enactments
14 or orders adopting districts for the Texas House of
15 Representatives. All previous acts of the legislature adopting
16 districts for the Texas House of Representatives are repealed.

17 (b) Chapter 2 (S.B. 3), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, 1st
18 Called Session, 2013 (Article 195a-13, Vernon's Texas Civil
19 Statutes), is repealed.

20 SECTION 7. The districts established in this Act apply to
21 the election of the members of the Texas House of Representatives
22 beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for
23 members of the 88th Legislature. This Act does not affect the
24 membership or districts of the House of Representatives of the 87th
25 Texas Legislature.

26 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
27 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.