

By: Darby

H.B. No. 4

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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

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

5 SECTION 1. The interim redistricting plan used to elect  
6 members of the United States House of Representatives from the  
7 State of Texas in 2012 ordered by the United States District Court  
8 for the Western District of Texas on February 28, 2012, in the case  
9 of Perez, et al. v. Perry, et al. (No. SA-11-CV-360), and identified  
10 as PLANC235 on the redistricting computer system operated by the  
11 Texas Legislative Council, is hereby ratified and adopted as the  
12 permanent plan for districts used to elect members of the United  
13 States House of Representatives from the State of Texas.

14 SECTION 2. In making this enactment the legislature finds  
15 that:

16 (1) the United States District Court for the Western  
17 District of Texas properly applied the decision of the United  
18 States Supreme Court on January 20, 2012, in Perry, et al. v. Perez,  
19 et al., 565 U.S. \_\_\_\_ (2012) (per curiam), in the creation of the  
20 district court's interim plan for Texas' congressional districts  
21 for use in the 2012 elections;

22 (2) the district court's interim plan for Texas'  
23 congressional districts complies with all federal and state  
24 constitutional provisions or laws applicable to redistricting

1 plans, including the federal Voting Rights Act; and

2 (3) the adoption of the district court's interim plan  
3 for Texas' congressional districts as a permanent plan by the Texas  
4 Legislature will:

5 (A) diminish the expense of further time and  
6 money by all parties in Texas' ongoing redistricting litigation;

7 (B) avoid disruption of the upcoming election  
8 cycle; and

9 (C) provide certainty and continuity to the  
10 citizens of Texas regarding the districts used to elect members of  
11 the United States House of Representatives from Texas.

12 SECTION 3. Chapter 1 (S.B. 4), Acts of the 82nd Legislature,  
13 1st Called Session, 2011 (Article 197j, Vernon's Texas Civil  
14 Statutes), is repealed.

15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
19 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
20 legislative session.