By:  Hunter H.B. No. 150

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the apportionment and composition of the districts of the Texas House of Representatives.

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

SECTION 1.  PURPOSE. The purpose of this Act is to fulfill the Legislature's constitutional responsibility to redistrict the House of Representatives following the publication of the 2020 census in compliance with the United States and Texas Constitutions and applicable Federal law.

SECTION 2.  FINDINGS. The Legislature finds:

(1)  Section 28, Article III, Texas Constitution, requires the Legislature to draw new representative districts during the first regular session following publication of the decennial census;

(2)  As a result of the estimated changes in the population of the state since 2013, the populations of the current representative districts are unequal and no longer comply with applicable legal requirements; and

(3)  The current representative districts must be replaced with new districts that satisfy all applicable legal requirements.

SECTION 3.  APPORTIONMENT; COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS. The State of Texas is apportioned into representative districts as provided in this Act. Each district is composed of the counties or parts of counties as determined by the Legislature consistent with the requirements of the United States and Texas Constitutions and applicable Federal law. One representative is elected from each district established by this Act.

SECTION 4.  TRANSITION PROVISION. The districts established by this Act apply to the election of the members of the Texas House of Representatives beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for members of the 88th Legislature. This Act does not affect the membership or districts of the Texas House of Representatives of the 87th Legislature.

SECTION 5.  REPEALER. Chapter 2 (S.B. 3), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2013 (Article 195a-13, Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes), is repealed.

SECTION 6.  EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.