By:  Hunter H.B. No. 200

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to the composition of districts for the election of members of the United States House of Representatives from Texas.

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 establish districts for the election of members of the United States House of Representatives following the publication of the 2020 census in compliance with the United States Constitution and applicable Federal and state law and the decennial reapportionment of congressional districts among the states.

SECTION 2.  FINDINGS. The Legislature finds:

(1)  2 U.S.C. Section 2a requires the election of members of the United States House of Representatives from districts;

(2)  As a result of the estimated changes in the population of the state since 2011, the populations of the current districts for the election of members of the United States House of Representatives are unequal and no longer comply with applicable legal requirements; and

(3)  The current districts must be replaced following publication of the decennial census with new districts that satisfy all applicable legal requirements.

SECTION 3.  COMPOSITION OF DISTRICTS. (a) The State of Texas is divided into congressional 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.

(b)  One member of the United States House of Representatives is elected from each district established under this Act.

SECTION 4.  TRANSITION PROVISION. The districts established by this Act apply to the election of the members of the United States House of Representatives of the 118th Congress beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022. This Act does not affect the membership or districts of members of the United States House of Representatives of the 117th Congress.

SECTION 5.  REPEALER. (a) This Act supersedes all previous enactments or orders adopting districts for the United States House of Representatives. All previous acts of the legislature adopting districts for the United States House of Representatives are repealed.

(b)  Chapter 3 (S.B. 4), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, 1st Called Session, 2013, is repealed.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.