87R3479 JRJ-D

By:  King of Parker H.B. No. 352

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the composition of the districts for the election of members of the United States House of Representatives.

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

SECTION 1.  The purpose of this Act is to fulfill the legislature's duty to redraw the districts for the election of the members of the United States House of Representatives elected from this state in compliance with the United States and Texas Constitutions and applicable federal law following the publication of the 2020 federal decennial census and the decennial reapportionment of representative districts among the states.

SECTION 2.  The districts from which the members of the United States House of Representatives are elected are the districts as provided by law and used for the election of the members of the House of Representatives of the 117th Congress of the United States except as those districts are changed by Section 3 of this Act.

SECTION 3.  (a)  The portion of Congressional District 13 located in Wise County tract 150601, block 4008, is transferred to Congressional District 12.

(b)  The portion of Congressional District 22 located in Brazoria County tract 661800, block 2050, is transferred to Congressional District 14.

(c)  The portion of Congressional District 10 located in Bastrop County tract 950502, block 1170, is transferred to House District 27.

SECTION 4.  In this Act, "tract," "block group," and "block" mean the geographic areas identified by those terms on the 2010 Census TIGER/Line Shapefiles, prepared by the federal Bureau of the Census for the Twenty-third Decennial Census of the United States, enumerated as of April 1, 2010.

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

SECTION 6.  (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 All previous acts of the legislature adopting districts for the United States House of Representatives are repealed.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 7.  The districts established in this Act apply to the election of the members of the United States House of Representatives beginning with the primary and general elections in 2022 for members of the 118th Congress of the United States. This Act does not affect the membership or districts of the United States House of Representatives for the 117th Congress of the United States.

SECTION 8.  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.