



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB4854

Introduced 1/27/2022, by Rep. Katie Stuart

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

10 ILCS 5/11-2

from Ch. 46, par. 11-2

Amends the Election Code. Provides that the county board in each county, except in counties having a population of 3,000,000 inhabitants or over, shall, at its regular meeting in June or an adjourned meeting in July, divide, adjust, or consolidate (currently, divide) its election precincts so that each precinct shall contain, as near as may be practicable, 1,200 registered voters. Provides that if it is not practicable to situate each precinct within a single district or ward by changing the boundaries of election precincts after each decennial census as soon as is practicable following the completion of congressional and legislative redistricting, then the county board may change the boundaries of the election precincts after the decennial census at the next regular June meeting or an adjourned meeting in July as described in the provisions. Makes conforming changes.

LRB102 24052 AWJ 33270 b

1 AN ACT concerning elections.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Election Code is amended by changing
5 Section 11-2 as follows:

6 (10 ILCS 5/11-2) (from Ch. 46, par. 11-2)

7 Sec. 11-2. Election precincts. The County Board in each
8 county, except in counties having a population of 3,000,000
9 inhabitants or over, shall, at its regular meeting in June or
10 an adjourned meeting in July, divide, adjust, or consolidate
11 its election precincts so that each precinct shall contain, as
12 near as may be practicable, 1,200 registered voters. Insofar
13 as is practicable, each precinct shall be situated within a
14 single congressional, legislative and representative district
15 and in not more than one County Board district and one
16 municipal ward. In order to situate each precinct within a
17 single district or ward, the County Board shall change the
18 boundaries of election precincts after each decennial census
19 as soon as is practicable following the completion of
20 congressional and legislative redistricting, unless this is
21 not practicable, in which the County Board may change the
22 boundaries of the election precincts after the decennial
23 census at the next regular June meeting or an adjourned

1 meeting in July as described in this Section. except that, in
2 2021, the county board shall change the boundaries at a
3 regular or special meeting within 60 days after the effective
4 date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General Assembly. In
5 determining whether a division of precincts should be made,
6 the county board may anticipate increased voter registration
7 in any precinct in which there is in progress new construction
8 of dwelling units which will be occupied by voters more than 30
9 days before the next election. Each district shall be composed
10 of contiguous territory in as compact form as can be for the
11 convenience of the electors voting therein. The several county
12 boards in establishing districts shall describe them by metes
13 and bounds and number them. And so often thereafter as it shall
14 appear by the number of votes cast at the general election held
15 in November of any year, that any election district or
16 undivided election precinct contains more than 1,200
17 registered voters, the County Board of the county in which the
18 district or precinct may be, shall at its regular meeting in
19 June, or an adjourned meeting in July next, after such
20 November election, consolidate, redivide or readjust such
21 election district or election precinct, so that no district or
22 election precinct shall contain more than the number of votes
23 above specified. If for any reason the County Board fails in
24 any year, including a year following decennial census in which
25 redistricting occurs, to consolidate, redivide, or readjust
26 the election districts or election precincts ~~precinct,~~ then

1 the districts or precincts as then existing shall continue
2 until the next regular June meeting of the County Board; at
3 which regular June meeting or an adjourned meeting in July the
4 County Board shall consolidate, redivide, or readjust the
5 election districts or election precincts in manner as herein
6 required. When at any meeting of the County Board any
7 consolidation, redivision, readjustment, or change in name or
8 number of election districts or election precincts is made by
9 the County Board, the County Clerk shall immediately notify
10 the State Board of Elections of such consolidation,
11 redivision, readjustment or change. The County Board in every
12 case shall fix and establish the places for holding elections
13 in its respective county and all elections shall be held at the
14 places so fixed. The polling places shall in all cases be upon
15 the ground floor in the front room, the entrance to which is in
16 a highway or public street which is at least 40 feet wide, and
17 is as near the center of the voting population of the precinct
18 as is practicable, and for the convenience of the greatest
19 number of electors to vote thereat; provided, however, where
20 the County Board is unable to secure a suitable polling place
21 within the boundaries of a precinct, it may select a polling
22 place at the most conveniently located suitable place outside
23 the precinct; but in no case shall an election be held in any
24 room used or occupied as a saloon, dramshop, bowling alley or
25 as a place of resort for idlers and disreputable persons,
26 billiard hall or in any room connected therewith by doors or

1 hallways. No person shall be permitted to vote at any election
2 except at the polling place for the precinct in which he
3 resides, except as otherwise provided in this Section or
4 Article 19 of this Act. In counties having a population of
5 3,000,000 inhabitants or over the County Board shall divide
6 its election precincts and shall fix and establish places for
7 holding elections as hereinbefore provided during the month of
8 January instead of at its regular meeting in June or at an
9 adjourned meeting in July.

10 However, in the event that additional divisions of
11 election precincts are indicated after a division made by the
12 County Board in the month of January, such additional
13 divisions may be made by the County Board in counties having a
14 population of 3,000,000 inhabitants or over, at the regular
15 meeting in June or at adjourned meeting in July. The county
16 board of such county may divide or readjust precincts at any
17 meeting of the county board when the voter registration in a
18 precinct has increased beyond 1,800 registered voters and an
19 election is scheduled before the next regular January or June
20 meeting of the county board.

21 When in any city, village or incorporated town territory
22 has been annexed thereto or disconnected therefrom, which
23 annexation or disconnection becomes effective after election
24 precincts or election districts have been established as above
25 provided in this Section, the clerk of the municipality shall
26 inform the county clerk thereof as provided in Section 4-21,

1 5-28.1, or 6-31.1, whichever is applicable. In the event that
2 a regular meeting of the County Board is to be held after such
3 notification and before any election, the County Board shall,
4 at its next regular meeting establish new election precinct
5 lines in affected territory. In the event that no regular
6 meeting of the County Board is to be held before such election
7 the county clerk shall, within 5 days after being so informed,
8 call a special meeting of the county board on a day fixed by
9 him not more than 20 days thereafter for the purpose of
10 establishing election precincts or election districts in the
11 affected territory for the ensuing elections.

12 At any consolidated primary or consolidated election at
13 which municipal officers are to be elected, and at any
14 emergency referendum at which a public question relating to a
15 municipality is to be voted on, notwithstanding any other
16 provision of this Code, the election authority shall establish
17 a polling place within such municipality, upon the request of
18 the municipal council or board of trustees at least 60 days
19 before the election and provided that the municipality
20 provides a suitable polling place. To accomplish this purpose,
21 the election authority may establish an election precinct
22 constituting a single municipality of under 500 population for
23 all elections, notwithstanding the minimum precinct size
24 otherwise specified herein.

25 Notwithstanding the above, when there are no more than 50
26 registered voters in a precinct who are entitled to vote in a

1 local government or school district election, the election
2 authority having jurisdiction over the precinct is authorized
3 to reassign such voters to one or more polling places in
4 adjacent precincts, within or without the election authority's
5 jurisdiction, for that election. For the purposes of such
6 local government or school district election only, the votes
7 of the reassigned voters shall be tallied and canvassed as
8 votes from the precinct of the polling place to which such
9 voters have been reassigned. The election authority having
10 jurisdiction over the precinct shall approve all
11 administrative and polling place procedures. Such procedures
12 shall take into account voter convenience, and ensure that the
13 integrity of the election process is maintained and that the
14 secrecy of the ballot is not violated.

15 Except in the event of a fire, flood or total loss of heat
16 in a place fixed or established by any county board or election
17 authority pursuant to this Section as a polling place for an
18 election, no election authority shall change the location of a
19 polling place so established for any precinct after notice of
20 the place of holding the election for that precinct has been
21 given as required under Article 12 unless the election
22 authority notifies all registered voters in the precinct of
23 the change in location by first class mail in sufficient time
24 for such notice to be received by the registered voters in the
25 precinct at least one day prior to the date of the election.

26 The provisions of this Section apply to all precincts,

1 including those where voting machines or electronic voting
2 systems are used.

3 (Source: P.A. 102-668, eff. 11-15-21.)