



102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

SB3725

Introduced 1/21/2022, by Sen. Jason A. Barickman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the People's Independent Maps Act. Requires the Chief Justice and the most senior Supreme Court Justice who is not elected from the same political party as the Chief Justice to select 16 commissioners no later than March 1 of the year that follows a federal decennial census to form the Independent Redistricting Commission. Provides that the Independent Redistricting Commission shall adopt and submit to the Legislative Redistricting Commission a redistricting plan for the Legislative Districts, Representative Districts, and Congressional Districts within 30 days after receiving redistricting data from the Census Bureau for the State of Illinois. Allows the Independent Redistricting Commission to adopt and submit separate redistricting plans for the Legislative Districts and Representative Districts and a separate plan for the Congressional Districts. Provides that any redistricting plan enacted by the General Assembly and not vetoed by the Governor shall immediately be filed with the Secretary of State, which shall be presumed valid and shall be published promptly by the Secretary of State. Provides the priorities, in order of importance, for establishing Legislative Districts, Representative Districts, and Congressional Districts. Provides for the eligibility of commissioners, public interaction and public hearings, financing and agency support for the Commission, and compensation and reimbursement for commissioners. Effective immediately.

LRB102 21977 HLH 31104 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 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 People's Independent Maps Act.

6 Section 5. Independent Redistricting Commission.

7 (a) No later than March 1 of the year that follows a
8 federal decennial census, the Chief Justice and the most
9 senior Supreme Court Justice who is not elected from the same
10 political party as the Chief Justice shall select 16
11 commissioners to form the Independent Redistricting
12 Commission. The commissioners shall reflect the ethnic,
13 gender, and racial demographics of Illinois. Fourteen of the
14 commissioners shall represent, in equal number, the 2
15 political parties whose gubernatorial candidates received the
16 greatest number of votes in the last gubernatorial election
17 and 2 of the commissioners shall represent neither of those
18 parties. The 2 Supreme Court Justices responsible for
19 selecting the 16 commissioners shall consider party
20 identification and all campaign contributions in determining a
21 potential commissioner's eligibility. There shall be at least
22 2 commissioners from each Judicial District.

23 (b) A person is ineligible to serve on the Independent

1 Redistricting Commission if within the previous 4 calendar
2 years the person or his or her spouse or immediate family
3 member was appointed or elected to a position with the State,
4 federal, or local government; is a State employee; is a
5 lobbyist as defined by law; has an ownership interest in an
6 entity with a State or federal contract; or is appointed or
7 elected to serve a political party. A commissioner is
8 ineligible for a period of 10 years after serving on the
9 Independent Redistricting Commission to be appointed to a
10 position subject to Senate confirmation. Commissioners must
11 file financial disclosure statements and abide by any ethics
12 requirements established by law.

13 (c) The Independent Redistricting Commission shall act in
14 public meetings by the affirmative votes of 10 commissioners.
15 The Independent Redistricting Commission shall elect its
16 chairperson and vice chairperson, who shall not be affiliated
17 with the same political party. Each meeting of the Independent
18 Redistricting Commission shall be open to the public, and
19 there must be public notice at least 7 days before a meeting.
20 All records of the Independent Redistricting Commission,
21 including all communications to or from the Independent
22 Redistricting Commission regarding the work of the Independent
23 Redistricting Commission, shall be available for public
24 inspection. The Independent Redistricting Commission shall
25 adopt rules governing its procedures. The Independent
26 Redistricting Commission shall be considered a public body

1 subject to the Freedom of Information Act or a successor Act
2 and the Open Meetings Act or a successor Act. Commissioners
3 and staff may not communicate with or receive communications
4 about redistricting matters from anyone outside of a public
5 hearing.

6 (d) The Independent Redistricting Commission shall hold at
7 least 10 public hearings throughout the State before adopting
8 a redistricting plan, with a majority occurring before the
9 Independent Redistricting Commission releases any proposed
10 redistricting plan and at least 4 public hearings must occur
11 throughout the State after the release of any proposed
12 redistricting plan.

13 The Independent Redistricting Commission must provide a
14 meaningful opportunity for racial minorities and language
15 minorities to participate in the public hearings, including,
16 but not limited to, issuing notices in multiple languages and
17 ensuring that translation services are available at all
18 hearings at the Independent Redistricting Commission's expense
19 or through partnership with outside organizations. These
20 public hearings must be open to all members of the public and
21 must be planned to encourage attendance and participation
22 across the State, including the use of technology that allows
23 for real-time, virtual participation and feedback during the
24 hearings. When releasing a proposed redistricting plan, the
25 Independent Redistricting Commission must also release
26 population data, geographic data, election data, and any other

1 data used to create the plan, when the Independent
2 Redistricting Commission receives this information. The
3 Independent Redistricting Commission must also provide
4 terminals for members of the public to access the data and
5 associated software. During the map drawing process, any
6 member of the public may submit maps for consideration to the
7 Independent Redistricting Commission. Those submissions are
8 public records that are open to comment.

9 The Independent Redistricting Commission may not adopt a
10 redistricting plan until the Independent Redistricting
11 Commission adopts and publishes a report explaining the plan's
12 compliance with the United States Constitution and Illinois
13 Constitution. Before the adoption of a redistricting plan, the
14 Independent Redistricting Commission shall release to the
15 public the final plan and its associated compliance report.
16 The meeting to vote on adoption of a redistricting plan shall
17 occur no sooner than six days after the release of the final
18 plan and its associated compliance report. All proposed and
19 adopted maps and any data used to develop these maps are public
20 records. The Independent Redistricting Commission shall
21 maintain a website or other similar electronic platform to
22 disseminate information about the Independent Redistricting
23 Commission, including records of its meetings and hearings,
24 proposed redistricting plans, assessments and reports on
25 plans, and to allow the public to view its meetings and
26 hearings in both live and archived form. The website or

1 electronic platform must allow the public to submit
2 redistricting plans and comments on redistricting plans to the
3 Independent Redistricting Commission for its consideration.

4 (e) Each Legislative District, Representative District,
5 and Congressional District shall, in the following order of
6 priority:

7 (1) fully comply with the United States Constitution
8 and federal law, such as the federal Voting Rights Act;

9 (2) be substantially equal in population;

10 (3) provide racial minorities and language minorities
11 with the equal opportunity to participate in the political
12 process and elect candidates of their choice;

13 (4) provide racial minorities and language minorities
14 who constitute less than a voting-age majority of a
15 Legislative District, Representative District, or
16 Congressional District with an opportunity to
17 substantially influence the outcome of an election;

18 (5) be contiguous;

19 (6) be compact;

20 (7) respect, to the extent practical, geographic
21 integrity of units of local government;

22 (8) respect, to the extent practical, communities
23 sharing common social or economic interests; and

24 (9) not discriminate against or in favor of any
25 political party or individual.

26 (f) The Independent Redistricting Commission shall adopt

1 and submit to the Legislative Redistricting Commission,
2 established by Section 3 of Article IV of the Illinois
3 Constitution, a redistricting plan for the Legislative
4 Districts and Representative Districts within 30 days of the
5 Census Bureau's release of the Legacy Format Summary
6 Redistricting Data File for the State of Illinois. The
7 Independent Redistricting Commission shall adopt and submit to
8 the General Assembly a redistricting plan for the
9 Congressional Districts within 30 days of the Census Bureau's
10 release of the Legacy Format Summary Redistricting Data File
11 for the State of Illinois. The Independent Redistricting
12 Commission may adopt and submit separate redistricting plans
13 for the Legislative Districts and Representative Districts,
14 and a separate plan for the Congressional Districts.

15 (g) If the Independent Redistricting Commission fails to
16 adopt and submit to the Legislative Redistricting Commission a
17 redistricting plan for the Legislative and Representative
18 Districts within 30 days from the Census Bureau's release of
19 the Legacy Format Summary Redistricting Data File, the Chief
20 Justice of the Supreme Court and the most senior Supreme Court
21 Justice who is not elected from the same political party as the
22 Chief Justice shall appoint within 3 days a seventeenth member
23 to the Independent Redistricting Commission. The seventeenth
24 member of the Independent Redistricting Commission must not be
25 affiliated with either major political party. The
26 seventeen-member Independent Redistricting Commission shall

1 adopt and submit to the Legislative Redistricting Commission a
2 redistricting plan for the Legislative Districts and
3 Representative Districts within 10 days of the appointment of
4 the seventeenth member of the Independent Redistricting
5 Commission.

6 (h) Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission
7 shall be compensated at the rate of \$37.50 for each hour the
8 member is engaged in Independent Redistricting Commission
9 business. Members of the Independent Redistricting Commission
10 are eligible for reimbursement of personal expenses incurred
11 in connection with the duties performed pursuant to this act.
12 A member's residence is deemed to be the member's post of duty
13 for purposes of reimbursement of expenses.

14 (i) Within the first 30 days after the selection of the
15 Independent Redistricting Commission, the Governor shall
16 include in the budget sufficient funding for the Independent
17 Redistricting Commission, the Legislative Redistricting
18 Commission and the Secretary of State to meet the estimated
19 expenses of each of those officers or entities in implementing
20 the redistricting process required by this Section, including,
21 but not limited to, adequate funding for a statewide outreach
22 program to solicit broad public participation in the
23 redistricting process. The Governor shall also make adequate
24 office space available for the operation of the Commission.
25 The Legislature shall make the necessary appropriation. The
26 Legislature may make additional appropriations in any year

1 that it determines that the Commission requires additional
2 funding in order to fulfill its duties. The Independent
3 Redistricting Commission and Legislative Redistricting
4 Commission, with fiscal oversight from the Comptroller or its
5 successor, shall be exempt from the Illinois Procurement Code
6 but will have procurement and contracting authority and may
7 hire staff and consultants, for the purposes of this Section.

8 (j) Any redistricting plan enacted by the Legislative
9 Redistricting Commission shall immediately be filed with the
10 Secretary of State. A redistricting plan filed with the
11 Secretary of State shall be presumed valid and shall be
12 published promptly by the Secretary of State.

13 (k) This Act shall not apply to any redistricting process
14 other than the one immediately following the 2020 Census.

15 Section 10. Commission dissolved. Each Independent
16 Redistricting Commission shall be dissolved on the first day
17 of the sixth month to occur after the final redistricting plan
18 is filed with the Secretary of State as provided in subsection
19 (j) of Section 5.

20 Section 97. Severability. The provisions of this Act are
21 severable under Section 1.31 of the Statute on Statutes.

22 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
23 becoming law.