



96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2009 and 2010

SB3976

Introduced 11/24/2010, by Sen. Kwame Raoul

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

New Act

Creates the Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011. Provides that Legislative Districts and Representative Districts shall be drawn to create crossover districts, coalition districts, or influence districts. Defines "crossover district", "coalition district", and "influence district". Provides that nothing in the Act shall be construed, applied, or implemented in a way that imposes any requirement or obligation that conflicts with the United States Constitution, any federal law regarding redistricting Legislative Districts or Representative Districts, or the Illinois Constitution. Provides that, if there is a violation of the Act, the redistricting plan shall be redrawn to the least extent necessary to remedy the violation. Creates the Redistricting Transparency and Public Participation Act. In the year following each federal decennial census year, provides for the Senate and House of Representatives to each establish a committee, or to establish a joint committee, to consider proposals to redistrict the Legislative Districts or Representative Districts, as applicable. Provides for notices and hearings. Effective immediately.

LRB096 24463 HLH 44167 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 Article 5. ILLINOIS VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 2011

5 Section 5-1. Short title. This Article may be cited as the
6 Illinois Voting Rights Act of 2011. All references in this
7 Article to "this Act" mean this Article.

8 Section 5-5. Redistricting.

9 (a) In any redistricting plan pursuant to Article IV,
10 Section 3 of the Illinois Constitution, Legislative Districts
11 and Representative Districts shall be drawn, subject to
12 subsection (d) of this Section, to create crossover districts,
13 coalition districts, or influence districts. The requirements
14 imposed by this Article are in addition and subordinate to any
15 requirements or obligations imposed by the United States
16 Constitution, any federal law regarding redistricting
17 Legislative Districts or Representative Districts, including
18 but not limited to the federal Voting Rights Act, and the
19 Illinois Constitution.

20 (b) The phrase "crossover district" means a district where
21 a racial minority or language minority constitutes less than a
22 majority of the voting-age population but where this minority,

1 at least potentially, is large enough to elect the candidate of
2 its choice with help from voters who are members of the
3 majority and who cross over to support the minority's preferred
4 candidate. The phrase "coalition district" means a district
5 where more than one group of racial minorities or language
6 minorities may form a coalition to elect the candidate of the
7 coalition's choice. The phrase "influence district" means a
8 district where a racial minority or language minority can
9 influence the outcome of an election even if its preferred
10 candidate cannot be elected.

11 (c) For purposes of this Act, the phrase "racial minorities
12 or language minorities", in either the singular or the plural,
13 means the same class of voters who are members of a race,
14 color, or language minority group receiving protection under
15 the federal Voting Rights Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973; 42 U.S.C. §
16 1973b(f) (2); 42 U.S.C. § 1973aa-1a(e).

17 (d) Nothing in this Act shall be construed, applied, or
18 implemented in a way that imposes any requirement or obligation
19 that conflicts with the United States Constitution, any federal
20 law regarding redistricting Legislative Districts or
21 Representative Districts, including but not limited to the
22 federal Voting Rights Act, or the Illinois Constitution.

23 (e) In the event of a violation of this Act, the
24 redistricting plan shall be redrawn to the least extent
25 necessary to remedy the violation.

1 Article 10. REDISTRICTING TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC
2 PARTICIPATION ACT

3 Section 10-1. Short title. This Article may be cited as the
4 Redistricting Transparency and Public Participation Act. All
5 references in this Article to "this Act" mean this Article.

6 Section 10-5. Committees; notices; hearings; public
7 participation. In the year following each federal decennial
8 census year, the Senate and House of Representatives shall each
9 establish a committee, or the Senate and House of
10 Representatives may create by joint resolution a joint
11 committee of both chambers, to consider proposals to redistrict
12 the Legislative Districts or Representative Districts, as
13 applicable. After the receipt of the federal decennial census
14 data from the federal government, each committee or joint
15 committee must conduct at least 4 public hearings statewide to
16 receive testimony and inform the public on the applicable
17 existing Districts, with one hearing held in each of 4 distinct
18 geographic regions of the State determined by the respective
19 committee. All hearings shall be open to the public. The
20 Chairperson of each committee or the Co-Chairpersons of a joint
21 committee, as applicable, shall, no later than 6 days before
22 any proposed hearing, post a notice with the Secretary of the
23 Senate, Clerk of the House, or both, as applicable. The notice
24 shall identify any measure and subject matter that may be

1 considered during that hearing. The notice shall contain the
2 day, hour, and place of the hearing.

3 Article 99. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 Section 99-99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
5 becoming law.