## **HOUSE BILL No. 1249**

## DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

**Citations Affected:** IC 2-1.5; IC 2-2.1-1-2.7; IC 3-3; IC 3-8.

Synopsis: Redistricting commission. Establishes a redistricting commission to create, hold hearings on, take public comment about, and recommend plans to redraw general assembly districts and congressional districts. Requires the legislative services agency (agency) to provide staff and administrative services to the commission. Establishes standards to govern the commission and the agency in the creation of redistricting plans. Provides that if the Constitution of the State of Indiana does not require the general assembly to establish legislative districts, the commission's recommendations for legislative and congressional districts become the plans that define those districts. Provides that, if the Constitution of the State of Indiana so requires, the general assembly must meet and enact redistricting plans before October 1 of a redistricting year. Authorizes the general assembly to convene in a session to act on redistricting bills at times other than the times the general assembly is currently authorized to meet. Repeals the current law establishing a redistricting commission for congressional redistricting. Appropriates from the state general fund the amounts necessary to pay the expenses of implementing the statute.

Effective: July 1, 2015.

## Moed

January 22, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Rules and Legislative Procedures.



First Regular Session of the 119th General Assembly (2015)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2014 Regular Session and 2014 Second Regular Technical Session of the General Assembly.

## **HOUSE BILL No. 1249**

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning the general assembly and to make an appropriation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1	SECTION 1. IC 2-1.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A
2	NEW ARTICLE TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1,
3	2015]:
4	ARTICLE 1.5. REDISTRICTING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY
5	AND CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS
6	Chapter 1. Definitions
7	Sec. 1. The definitions in this chapter apply throughout this
8	article.
9	Sec. 2. "Agency" refers to the legislative services agency
0	established by IC 2-5-1.1-7.
1	Sec. 3. "Appointing authority" refers to any of the following:
2	(1) The speaker of the house of representatives.
3	(2) The minority leader of the house of representatives.
4	(3) The president pro tempore of the senate.
5	(4) The minority leader of the senate.



1	Sec. 4. "Bureau" refers to the United States Department of
2	Commerce, Bureau of the Census.
3	Sec. 5. "Census data" means the population data that the
4	bureau is required to provide to the state under 13 U.S.C. 141.
5	Sec. 6. "Census year" refers to the year in which a federal
6	decennial census is conducted.
7	Sec. 7. "Commission" refers to the redistricting commission
8	established by IC 2-1.5-3-1.
9	Sec. 8. "Federal decennial census" refers to a federal decennial
10	census conducted under 13 U.S.C. 141.
11	Sec. 9. "House of representatives" refers to the house of
12	representatives of the general assembly.
13	Sec. 10. "Ideal district population" for a plan refers to the
14	number equal to the quotient of the following, rounded to the
15	nearest whole number:
16	(1) The numerator is the population of Indiana as reported by
17	the most recent federal decennial census.
18	(2) The denominator is the number of districts required by
19	this article for the plan.
20	Sec. 11. "Nominating commission" refers to the judicial
21	nominating commission established by Article 7, Section 9 of the
22	Constitution of the State of Indiana.
23	Sec. 12. (a) "Plan" refers to any of the following:
24	(1) A plan for districts for the house of representatives.
25	(2) A plan for districts for the senate.
26	(3) A plan for congressional districts.
27	(b) A plan includes maps and written descriptions of the maps
28	that define all the districts that a plan is required to have under
29	this article.
30	Sec. 13. "Political subdivision" means a city, county, town, or
31	township.
32	Sec. 14. "Redistricting year" refers to the year immediately
33	following a census year.
34	Sec. 15. "Senate" refers to the senate of the general assembly.
35	Chapter 2. Nomination of Redistricting Commission Members
36	Sec. 1. An individual who wishes to serve as a member of the
37	commission must make an application to the nominating
38	commission:
39	(1) not sooner than January 1 of the census year; and
40	(2) not later than July 1 of the census year.
41	Sec 2 (a) An individual who wishes to serve as a member of the

commission must be a resident of Indiana.



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1	(b) An individual may not serve on the commission if the
2	individual has been any of the following at any time less than six (6)
3	years before January 1 of the redistricting year for which the
4	individual will serve as a commission member:
5	(1) A member of the general assembly or the Congress of the
6	United States.
7	(2) A candidate for election to the general assembly or the
8	Congress of the United States.
9	(3) The holder of a state office (as defined in IC 3-5-2-48).
10	(4) An appointed public official.
11	(5) The chairman or treasurer of a candidate's committee of
12	a candidate for election to the general assembly or the
13	Congress of the United States as required by IC 3-9-1 or
14	federal law.
15	(6) An individual registered as a lobbyist under IC 2-7.
16	Sec. 3. (a) An individual's application to serve on the
17	commission must contain the following information:
18	(1) The individual's name.
19	(2) The individual's address.
20	(3) The individual's telephone number.
21	(4) The individual's electronic mail address.
22	(5) The individual's occupation.
23	(6) A brief biography of the individual.
24	(7) A brief statement why the individual:
25	(A) wishes to be a commission member; and
26	(B) believes the individual is qualified to be a commission
27	member.
28	(8) A statement that the individual is either of the following:
29	(A) A member of a major political party of the state (as
30	defined in IC 3-5-2-30).
31	(B) A political independent.
32	(9) A statement made under the penalties for perjury stating
33	that the information that the individual has supplied on the
34	individual's application is true to the best of the individual's
35	knowledge and belief.
36	(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(8), an individual is considered
37	a political independent only if the individual satisfies all of the
38	following during the ten (10) year period immediately before the
39	census year:
40	(1) The individual has not voted in a primary election of a

major political party of the state.

(2) The individual has not been a candidate of a major



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1	political party of the state for any office.
2	(3) The individual has not served as a precinct committeeman
3	or a precinct vice committeeman of a major political party of
4	the state.
5	(4) The individual has not served as a member of a
6	candidate's committee of a candidate of a major political
7	party of the state.
8	(5) The individual has not served as a member of a regular
9	party committee of a major political party of the state.
10	(6) The individual has not served as a delegate of a state
11	convention or a national convention of a major political party
12	of the state.
13	(7) The individual has not served as a candidate for the office
14	of elector for President and Vice President of the United
15	States.
16	Sec. 4. (a) Not later than September 1 of a census year, the
17	nominating commission shall recommend the names of not more
18	than twenty-five (25) individuals who:
19	(1) have applied to be a member of the commission under this
20	chapter; and
21	(2) the nominating commission considers the most qualified to
22	serve as members of the commission.
23	(b) The names of the individuals recommended under subsection
24	(a) shall be sorted into three (3) lists as follows:
25	(1) A list of the names of the ten (10) individuals who are
26	members of the same major political party of the state who
27	the nominating commission considers most qualified to serve
28	as a member of the commission. If ten (10) or fewer
29	individuals applied whose names could be placed on this list,
30	the names of all the individuals shall be placed on the list.
31	(2) A list of the names of the ten (10) individuals who are
32	members of the other major political party of the state who
33	the nominating commission considers most qualified to serve
34	as a member of the commission. If ten (10) or fewer
35	individuals applied whose names could be placed on this list,
36	the names of all the individuals shall be placed on the list.
37	(3) A list of the names of the five (5) individuals who are
38	political independents who the nominating commission
39	considers most qualified to serve as the chair of the
40	commission. If five (5) or fewer individuals applied whose
41	names could be placed on this list, the names of all the

individuals shall be placed on the list.



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1	Sec. 5. The nominating commission shall certify a copy of each
2	of the lists to the following, not later than October 1 of a census
3	year:
4	(1) Each of the appointing authorities.
5	(2) The executive director of the agency.
6	Chapter 3. Redistricting Commission
7	Sec. 1. As provided in this chapter, a redistricting commission
8	consisting of five (5) members is established.
9	Sec. 2. (a) Not later than January 15 of a redistricting year, each
10	of the appointing authorities shall do the following:
11	(1) Appoint one (1) individual whose name is on a list
12	described in IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(1) or IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(2) to be a
13	commission member.
14	(2) Certify to the executive director of the agency the
15	appointment of the individual to the commission.
16	(b) Not later than February 15 of a redistricting year, the
17	members appointed under subsection (a) shall meet and appoint a
18	fifth individual to be the commission's chair. The name of the
19	individual appointed as chair must appear on the list described in
20	IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(3).
21	(c) If the commission does not appoint an individual as
22	commission chair before March 1 of a redistricting year, the chief
23	justice of the supreme court shall appoint a fifth individual to be
24	the commission's chair from the list of names described in
25	IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(3). The chief justice shall:
26	(1) make the appointment before March 15 of the redistricting
27	year; and
28	(2) certify the appointment to the executive director of the
29	agency.
30	Sec. 3. (a) Before undertaking duties as a commission member,
31	an individual appointed under section 2 or 6 of this chapter must
32	do each of the following:
33	(1) Take an oath of office.
34	(2) Make an affirmation that the individual will:
35	(A) apply the provisions of this article in an honest and
36	independent manner; and
37	(B) uphold public confidence in the integrity of the
38	redistricting process.
39	(3) Make a written pledge that the individual will not be a
40	candidate for:
41	(A) election to the general assembly; or
42	(B) selection to fill a vacancy in the general assembly;



1	at any time before the second election for members of the
2	general assembly after the individual's appointment to the
3	commission.
4	(b) A member's oath, affirmation, and pledge shall be filed with
5	the agency.
6	Sec. 4. An individual serves as a commission member until the
7	earlier of the following:
8	(1) The individual vacates the individual's membership on the
9	commission.
10	(2) The appointment of a new commission under this chapter
11	following a federal decennial census.
12	Sec. 5. A commission member may be removed from office for
13	substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, or inability
14	to discharge the duties of office as provided by law for the removal
15	of other public officers.
16	Sec. 6. (a) If the position of commission chair becomes vacant,
17	the commission shall appoint an individual to fill the vacancy not
18	later than fifteen (15) days after the vacancy occurs. If the
19	commission does not make the appointment as provided in this
20	subsection, the chief justice shall:
21	(1) make the appointment not later than thirty (30) days after
22	the vacancy occurs; and
23	(2) certify the appointment to the executive director of the
24	agency.
25	The name of the individual appointed under this subsection must
26	appear on the list of names described in IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(3).
27	(b) If a vacancy other than a vacancy described in subsection (a)
28	occurs on the commission, the leader of the caucus, whose leader
29	appointed the member whose position is vacant, shall appoint an
30	individual to fill the vacancy not later than fifteen (15) days after
31	the vacancy occurs. The name of the individual appointed under
32	this subsection must appear on the list of names described in
33	IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(1) or IC 2-1.5-2-4(b)(2).
34	Sec. 7. The affirmative vote of three (3) commission members is
35	necessary for the commission to take official action.
36	Sec. 8. Each commission member is entitled to receive the same
37	per diem, mileage, and travel allowances paid to members of the
38	general assembly serving on interim study committees established
39	by the legislative council.
40	Sec. 9. The agency shall provide the commission with staff and

Sec. 10. The amounts necessary to pay the expenses of the



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administrative services.

1	commission and the agency to implement this article are
2	continuously appropriated to the agency from the state general
3	fund.
4	Chapter 4. Redistricting Procedure
5	Sec. 1. (a) Before January 1 of a redistricting year, the agency
6	shall acquire any hardware, software, and supplies necessary to
7	assist the commission in the performance of the commission's
8	duties under this article.
9	(b) At any time, the agency may acquire additional hardware,
10	software, and supplies the executive director of the agency
11	considers necessary to assist the commission in performance of the
12	commission's duties under this article.
13	Sec. 2. Not later than March 15 of a redistricting year, the
14	commission's chair shall convene the commission to do the
15	following:
16	(1) Organize the commission.
17	(2) Receive reports from the agency concerning the following:
18	(A) Information relating to the receipt of census data from
19	the bureau.
20	(B) The readiness of the agency to assist the commission's
21	work.
22	(C) Any other matter on which a report is requested by the
23	commission.
24	(3) Provide initial instructions to the agency regarding the
25	commission's work.
26	(4) Schedule hearings required or permitted under section 5
27	of this chapter.
28	(5) Schedule other meetings the commission considers
29	necessary.
30	(6) Schedule the receipt of maps from the public.
31	Sec. 3. If the agency must make a decision on a question for
32	which no clearly applicable provision of this article or instruction
33	of the commission provides an answer, the executive director of the
34	agency shall submit a written request to the commission for
35	direction.
36	Sec. 4. (a) The agency shall do the following:
37	(1) Create maps of legislative district plans and congressional
38	district plans that conform to this article and the
39	commission's instructions.
40	(2) Prepare written descriptions of the maps created under
41	subdivision (1).

(3) Evaluate maps submitted by the public for conformance



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1	with the standards set forth in IC 2-1.5-5.
2 3	(b) The agency shall produce as many different plans as the
	commission instructs:
4	(1) not earlier than May 1 of a redistricting year; and
5	(2) not later than May 15 of the redistricting year.
6	(c) The agency shall publish the maps and descriptions:
7	(1) prepared for the commission by the agency; and
8	(2) submitted to the commission from the public;
9	as directed by the commission not later than May 15 of a
10	redistricting year.
11	Sec. 5. (a) As directed by the commission, the agency shall
12	receive for the commission written public comments regarding the
13	plans after publication of the plans.
14	(b) Not later than June 30 of a redistricting year, the
15	commission shall conduct at least one (1) public hearing in each of
16	the following regions of Indiana, as determined by the commission
17	(1) Northern Indiana.
18	(2) Central Indiana.
19	(3) Southern Indiana.
20	(c) The commission may hold hearings in addition to the
21	hearings required by subsection (b).
22	(d) The commission shall do the following at any hearings held
23	under this section:
24	(1) Explain the redistricting procedure.
25	(2) Present the plans prepared for the commission by the
26	agency.
27	(3) Have available the plans submitted by the public and the
28	agency's evaluation of those plans.
29	(4) Hear public comments and suggestions.
30	(e) The commission may take other actions the commission
31	considers appropriate to do the following:
32	(1) Explain the redistricting procedure or the plans to the
33	public.
34	(2) Receive public comments and suggestions.
35	Sec. 6. (a) Not later than August 1 of a redistricting year, the
36	commission shall meet to adopt a report to the general assembly
37	The report must include the following:
38	(1) A summary of the commission's and the agency's
39	preparation for the commission's work.
40	(2) A description of the hearings held under section 5 of this
41	chapter.

(3) A summary of the public comments and suggestions



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(4) The commission's recommendation to the general

received in writing and at the hearings.

assembly for each of the following:

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4	(A) A district plan for the house of representatives.
5	(B) A district plan for the senate.
6	(C) A congressional district plan.
7	(5) Maps for each plan, including both a statewide map and a
8	map for each district.
9	(6) A bill that would enact each of the plans. This subdivision
10	applies only if the Constitution of the State of Indiana
11	requires the general assembly to establish legislative districts.
12	(b) The commission shall recommend to the general assembly
13	the plan that the commission considers the best in meeting the
14	standards set forth in IC 2-1.5-5.
15	(c) The commission may include any other information in the
16	report that the commission considers useful to explain the
17	commission's work or recommendations.
18	(d) The report required by this section must be submitted to the
19	legislative council in an electronic format under IC 5-14-6.
20	Sec. 7. (a) This section does not apply if the Constitution of the
21	State of Indiana requires the general assembly to establish
22	legislative districts.
23	(b) The agency shall file the commission's report under section
24	6 of this chapter with the secretary of state not later than August
25	15 of a redistricting year.
26	(c) The commission's recommendations become the plans for the
27	districts for the house of representatives, for the senate, and for
28	congressional districts, beginning with the first general election
29	held after the redistricting year.
30	Chapter 5. Redistricting Standards
31	Sec. 1. Districts created for the house of representatives, the
32	senate, and the United States House of Representatives must
33	comply with the standards of this chapter.
34	Sec. 2. (a) A plan for house of representatives districts must
35	provide for one hundred (100) districts.
36	(b) A plan for senate districts must provide for fifty (50)
37	districts.
38	(c) A plan for congressional districts must provide for as many
39	districts as are allocated to Indiana under 2 U.S.C. 2a.
40	Sec. 3. Districts shall be established on the basis of population.
41	Sec. 4. The population of a district of the house of
42	representatives or the senate may not deviate from the ideal



1	district population by more than one percent (1%) of the ideal
2	district population.
3	Sec. 5. (a) Districts must be composed of contiguous territory.
4	(b) Areas that meet only at the point of adjoining corners are
5	not considered contiguous.
6	Sec. 6. Districts must be as compact as possible to the extent
7	practicable while considering other provisions of this chapter and
8	the federal Voting Rights Act.
9	Sec. 7. Districts must not breach precinct boundaries.
10	Sec. 8. To the extent possible consistent with sections 2 through
11	6 of this chapter, district boundaries of general assembly districts
12	must coincide with the boundaries of Indiana political subdivisions
13	as follows:
14	(1) The commission shall minimize the number of counties
15	and cities divided among more than one (1) district.
16	(2) Except as provided in subdivision (3), if there is a choice
17	between political subdivisions to be divided, a more populous
18	political subdivision shall be divided before a less populous
19	political subdivision is divided.
20	(3) Subdivision (2) does not apply to a legislative district
21	boundary drawn along a county line that passes through a
22	municipality that lies in more than one (1) county.
23	Sec. 9. A plan must maximize the number of competitive
24	districts to the extent possible without compromising the other
25	standards described in this chapter.
26	Sec. 10. (a) In evaluating plans for recommendation, the
27	commission shall consider the effect that a plan has on language
28	minority groups and racial minority groups as required by the
29	federal Voting Rights Act.
30	(b) The commission may use political data at least to the extent
31	necessary to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act.
32	SECTION 2. IC 2-2.1-1-2.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE
33	AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY
34	1, 2015]: Sec. 2.7. (a) This section applies only if the Constitution of
35	the State of Indiana requires the general assembly to establish
36	legislative districts.
37	(b) The definitions in IC 2-1.5-1 apply throughout this section.
38	(c) Before October 1 of a redistricting year, the general
39	assembly shall convene and enact bills to establish the following:
40	(1) House of representatives districts.
41	(2) Senate districts.

(3) Congressional districts.



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1	(d) A bill to enact a redistricting plan recommended by the
2	redistricting commission under IC 2-1.5-4 must be introduced in
3	and considered by each house of the general assembly, withou
4	amendment, except amendments of a technical nature.
5	(e) Unless the general assembly has enacted bills described in
6	subsection (c) at:
7	(1) a session convened under another section of this chapter
8	or
9	(2) a special session called by the governor;
0	the general assembly may not consider a matter that is not relevan
1	to the legislation described in subsection (c) during a session
2	convened under this section.
3	SECTION 3. IC 3-3-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]
4	(Redistricting Commission).
5	SECTION 4. IC 3-3-5-10, AS ADDED BY P.L.215-2011
6	SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
7	JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 10. (a) Beginning November 6, 2012, the 200
8	Congressional District Plan:
9	(1) adopted by the redistricting commission under IC 3-3-2
0.0	(repealed); and
21	(2) published in the governor's executive order 01-11 in the
22	Indiana Register at 24 IR 3293-3298;
23	is void.
23 24	(b) This section expires January 1, 2022.
25	SECTION 5. IC 3-8-2-8, AS AMENDED BY P.L.194-2013
26	SECTION 13, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
27	JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 8. (a) A declaration of candidacy for the office o
28	United States Senator or for the office of governor must be
.9	accompanied by a petition signed by at least four thousand five
0	hundred (4,500) voters of the state, including at least five hundred
1	(500) voters from each congressional district.
2	(b) Each petition must contain the following:
3	(1) The signature of each petitioner.
4	(2) The name of each petitioner legibly printed.
5	(3) The residence address of each petitioner as set forth on the
6	petitioner's voter registration record.
7	(c) Except as provided in this subsection, the signature, printed
8	name, and residence address of the petitioner must be made in writing
9	by the petitioner. If a petitioner with a disability is unable to write thi
-0	information on the petition, the petitioner may authorize an individua
-1	to do so on the petitioner's behalf. The individual acting under thi
.2	subsection shall execute an affidavit of assistance for each sucl



petitioner, in a form prescribed by the commission. The form must set
forth the name and address of the individual providing assistance, and
the date the individual provided the assistance. The form must be
submitted with the petition.

- (d) This subsection applies to a petition filed during the period:
  - (1) beginning on the date that a congressional district plan has been adopted under <del>IC 3-3;</del> **IC 2-1.5;** and
  - (2) ending on the date that the part of the act or order issued under IC 3-3-2 establishing the previous congressional district plan is repealed or superseded.

The petition must be signed by at least four thousand five hundred (4,500) voters of Indiana, including at least five hundred (500) voters from each congressional district created by the most recent congressional district plan adopted under IC 3-3. IC 2-1.5.

SECTION 6. IC 3-8-3-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.194-2013, SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015]: Sec. 2. (a) A request filed under section 1 of this chapter must be accompanied by a petition signed by at least four thousand five hundred (4,500) voters of the state, including at least five hundred (500) voters from each congressional district.

- (b) Each petition must contain the following:
  - (1) The signature of each petitioner.
  - (2) The name of each petitioner legibly printed.
  - (3) The residence address of each petitioner as set forth on the petitioner's voter registration record.
- (c) Except as provided in this subsection, the signature, printed name, and residence address of the petitioner must be made in writing by the petitioner. If a petitioner with a disability is unable to write this information on the petition, the petitioner may authorize an individual to do so on the petitioner's behalf. The individual acting under this subsection shall execute an affidavit of assistance for each such petitioner, in a form prescribed by the commission. The form must set forth the name and address of the individual providing assistance, and the date the individual provided the assistance. The form must be submitted with the petition.
  - (d) This subsection applies to a petition filed during the period:
    - (1) beginning on the date that a congressional district plan has been adopted under <del>IC 3-3;</del> **IC 2-1.5;** and
    - (2) ending on the date that the part of the act or order issued under IC 3-3-2 establishing the previous congressional district plan is repealed or superseded.
- The petition must be signed by at least four thousand five hundred



- (4,500) voters of Indiana, including at least five hundred (500) voters from each congressional district created by the most recent
- congressional district plan adopted under <del>IC</del> 3-3. **IC** 2-1.5.

