



1 seeking input of Louisiana citizens on, inter alia, the drawing of new congressional districts;  
2 and

3 WHEREAS, the issues have been well vetted through hundreds of hours of direct  
4 testimony, deliberation, and debate around the state and during this special session; and

5 WHEREAS, no fewer than fifteen bills have been introduced to redistrict congress  
6 along various district lines and even more amendments have been offered providing the  
7 legislature with many variations for consideration; and

8 WHEREAS, undoubtedly, congressional redistricting is a difficult task and the loss  
9 of one congressional district has substantially compounded the level of difficulty; and

10 WHEREAS, the reduction of the number of congressional districts from seven to six  
11 has created regional tensions as geographical areas desire to maintain communities of  
12 interest within single districts; and

13 WHEREAS, whether congressional redistricting is done during this special session  
14 or at subsequent sessions, none of the regional tensions will have abated and any delay will  
15 result in additional cost; and

16 WHEREAS, the people of Louisiana deserve to know, well in advance of the  
17 November 2012 elections, in which district they reside; and

18 WHEREAS, timely drawn districts will provide the greatest opportunity for the  
19 largest number of qualified people to announce their candidacy within a respective district;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, despite a majority of the congressional incumbents sending a letter to  
22 the governor urging a delay in congressional redistricting, it is the duty of the legislature to  
23 draw new district lines and, furthermore, the legislature is not concerned with incumbent  
24 protection but rather the best interest of the people of the state.

25 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
26 proclaim the importance of the Louisiana Legislature enacting a congressional redistricting  
27 plan during the 2011 First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Edwards

HCR No. 18

Proclaims the importance of redistricting the state's congressional districts during the 2011 First Extraordinary Session of the Louisiana Legislature.