

HOUSE BILL 1965

By Lundberg

AN ACT to repeal Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-2-506, relative to judicial districts.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 16-2-506, is hereby repealed on August 31, 2022.

SECTION 2. No later than August 31, 2016, and every eight (8) years thereafter, the Tennessee advisory commission on intergovernmental relations (TACIR) shall recommend and publish a proposed statewide judicial redistricting plan. The plan shall provide reasonable and timely access to the state's circuit, chancery and criminal courts and shall promote the efficient utilization of publicly-funded resources allocated for such courts. Prior to recommending its plan, TACIR shall conduct at least one (1) public hearing within each of the state's three (3) grand divisions and shall receive oral and written testimony from interested organizations and citizens of this state.

SECTION 3. No later than August 31, 2017, and every eight (8) years thereafter, the speaker of the senate and the speaker of the house of representatives shall establish a joint legislative committee on judicial redistricting. The joint committee shall consist of five (5) senators and five (5) representatives, appointed by the respective speakers. The committee shall thoroughly review the proposed TACIR plan and shall receive oral and written testimony from interested organizations and citizens of this state.

SECTION 4. No later than August 31, 2019, and every eight (8) years thereafter, each joint legislative committee established pursuant to Section 3 shall recommend legislation to the general assembly to enact:

- (1) The TACIR plan, as proposed by TACIR;

(2) The TACIR plan, as modified by the committee; or

(3) An alternative statewide judicial redistricting plan.

SECTION 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.