1   **Voting Precinct Amendments**
                                        2025 GENERAL SESSION
                                           STATE OF UTAH
                                  Chief Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan

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3   **LONG TITLE**

4   **Committee Note:**

5   The Political Subdivisions Interim Committee recommended this bill.

6   Legislative Vote: 12 voting for   0 voting against   4 absent

7   **General Description:**

8   This bill addresses voting precincts.

9   **Highlighted Provisions:**

10   This bill:

11   ‣ increases, to 3,000, the maximum allowable number of active voters in a voting precinct;

12   ‣ subject to an exception, authorizes the county clerk to adjust the boundaries of a voting

13   precinct in order to:

14   • match the current boundaries of a local political subdivision; or

15   • match the resulting boundaries of a local subdivision that expands, divides, alters, or

16   changes the local political subdivision's boundaries;

17   ‣ requires a county clerk who adjusts the boundaries of a voting precinct to:

18   • file a notice with the Utah Geospatial Resource Center at least 65 days before the date

19   of an election; and

20   • provide a copy of the notice to the county legislative body;

21   ‣ prohibits a county clerk from adjusting a voting precinct's boundaries if the number of

22   active voters in the resulting precinct is more than 3,000; and

23   ‣ makes technical and conforming changes.

24   **Money Appropriated in this Bill:**

25   None

26   **Other Special Clauses:**

27   None

28   **Utah Code Sections Affected:**

29   AMENDS:

30   **20A-5-303**, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, Chapters 162, 345

31   ENACTS:

32   **20A-5-303.5**, Utah Code Annotated 1953

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34   *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

35   Section 1. Section **20A-5-303** is amended to read:

36   **20A-5-303 . Establishing, dividing, abolishing, and changing voting precincts --**

37   **Common polling places -- Combined voting precincts.**

38   (1)(a) After receiving recommendations from the county clerk, the county legislative

39   body may establish, divide, abolish, [and change voting precincts] or change the

40   boundaries of a voting precinct.

41   (b) Within 30 days after the establishment, division, abolition, or change of a voting

42   precinct under this section, the county legislative body shall file with the Utah

43   Geospatial Resource Center, created under Section 63A-16-505, a notice describing

44   the action taken and specifying the resulting boundaries of each voting precinct

45   affected by the action.

46   (2)(a) The county legislative body shall alter or divide voting precincts so that each

47   voting precinct contains not more than [1,250] 3,000 active voters.

48   (b) The county legislative body shall:

49   (i) [identify those precincts that] identify each voting precinct that:

50   (A) may reach the limit of active voters in a precinct under Subsection (2)(a); or

51   (B) [that becomes] is too large to facilitate the election process; and

52   (ii) except as provided by Subsection (3), divide those precincts on or before January

53   1 of a general election year.

54   (3) A county legislative body shall divide a voting precinct identified under Subsection

55   (2)(b)(i) on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately

56   follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in

57   accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

58   (4) Notwithstanding Subsection (2)(a), and except as provided by Subsection (5), the

59   county legislative body may not:

60   (a) establish or abolish [any] a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular general

61   election year;

62   (b) alter or change the boundaries of [any] a voting precinct after January 1 of a regular

63   general election year; or

64   (c) establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting precinct between January 1 of a

65   year immediately preceding the year in which an enumeration is required by the

66   United States Constitution, and the day on which the Legislature divides the state into

67   districts in accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

68   (5) A county legislative body may establish, divide, abolish, alter, or change a voting

69   precinct on or before January 31 of a regular general election year that immediately

70   follows the calendar year in which the Legislature divides the state into districts in

71   accordance with Utah Constitution, Article IX, Section 1.

72   (6)(a) For the purpose of voting in an election, the county legislative body may establish

73   a common polling place for two or more whole voting precincts.

74   (b) At least 90 days before the date of the election, the county legislative body shall

75   designate:

76   (i) [the voting precincts] each voting precinct that will vote at the common polling

77   place; and

78   (ii) the location of the common polling place.

79   (c) A county may use one set of election judges for the common polling place under this

80   Subsection (6).

81   (7) Each county shall have at least two polling places open for voting on the date of the

82   election.

83   (8) Each common polling place shall have at least one voting device that is accessible for

84   individuals with disabilities in accordance with Public Law 107-252, the Help America

85   Vote Act of 2002.

86   Section 2. Section **20A-5-303.5** is enacted to read:

87   **20A-5-303.5 . Voting precinct boundaries -- Adjustment by county clerk.**

88   (1) Notwithstanding Section 20A-5-303, and except as provided in Subsection (3), the

89   county clerk may adjust the boundaries of a voting precinct in order to:

90   (a) match the current boundaries of a local political subdivision; or

91   (b) match the resulting boundaries of a local political subdivision that expands, divides,

92   alters, or changes the local political subdivision's boundaries.

93   (2)(a) A county clerk who adjusts the boundaries of a voting precinct under Subsection

94   (1) shall, no later than 65 days before the date of an election, file with the Utah

95   Geospatial Resource Center, created in Section 63A-16-505, a notice that:

96   (i) describes the reason for the voting precinct boundary adjustment; and

97   (ii) specifies the resulting boundaries of the voting precinct affected by the

98   adjustment.

99   (b) The county clerk shall provide a copy of the notice described in Subsection (2)(a) to

100   the county legislative body.

101   (3) A county clerk may not adjust the boundaries of a voting precinct if the number of

102   active voters in the resulting voting precinct is more than the limit of active voters in a

103   voting precinct under Subsection 20A-5-303(2)(a).

104   (4) A county clerk's adjustment of a voting precinct's boundaries under this section is not

105   effective until the county clerk files the notice described in Subsection (2)(a).

106   Section 3. **Effective date.**

107   This bill takes effect on May 7, 2025.