

**REPUBLICAN COMMISSIONERS OF THE HOUSE
INDEPENDENT BIPARTISAN CITIZENS COMMISSION
PROPOSED MAP FOR THE MISSOURI HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES IN COMPLIANCE WITH
SECTION THREE OF ARTICLE III OF
THE MISSOURI CONSTITUTION**

**Submitted to: The House Independent Bipartisan
Citizens Commission**

Jefferson City, Missouri

December 6, 2021

SUMMARY

The map proposed by the Republican members of the House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission does the following:

- Maintains population of each District within three percent (3%) above or below the target population as allowed by Section 3(b)(1) or Article III of the Missouri Constitution;
- Increases the number of majority African-American districts from fourteen under the existing judge-drawn 2011 map to sixteen under the proposed map;
- Creates a majority Hispanic House District for the first time in the history of Missouri;
- Creates Districts that are contiguous and compact;
- Respects county boundaries and municipal boundaries by:
 - Having all the Districts in the City of St. Louis fully contained within the boundaries of the City;
 - Having all the Districts in St. Louis County fully contained within the boundaries of the County;
 - Having all the Districts in Boone County fully contained within the boundaries of the County;
 - Having all the Districts in Greene County fully contained within the boundaries of the County;
 - Having all the Districts in Platte County fully contained within the boundaries of the County, except for one District shared with an adjacent county to meet the population target; and
 - Keeping cities, such as Ferguson and Raytown within single Districts; and

The Republican members of the House Independent Bipartisan Citizens Commission look forward to working with their Democrat counterparts to adopt a mutually agreeable map.

CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENTS

*III Section 3. Election of representatives — legislative redistricting methods — house independent bipartisan citizens commission, appointment, duties, compensation — court actions, procedure. — (a) The house of representatives shall consist of one hundred sixty-three members elected at each general election and redistricted as provided in this section.

(b) The house independent bipartisan citizens commission shall redistrict the house of representatives using the following methods, listed in order of priority:

(1) Districts shall be as nearly equal as practicable in population, and shall be drawn on the basis of one person, one vote. Districts are as nearly equal as practicable in population if no district deviates by more than one percent from the ideal population of the district, as measured by dividing the number of districts into the statewide population data being used, except that a district may deviate by up to three percent if necessary to follow political subdivision lines consistent with subdivision (4) of this subsection;

(2) Districts shall be established in a manner so as to comply with all requirements of the United States Constitution and applicable federal laws, including, but not limited to, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (as amended). The following principles shall take precedence over any other part of this constitution: no district shall be drawn in a manner which results in a denial or abridgment of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color; and no district shall be drawn such that members of any community of citizens protected by the preceding clause have less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice;

(3) Subject to the requirements of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, districts shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as may be. Areas which meet only at the points of adjoining corners are not contiguous. In general, compact districts are those which are square, rectangular, or hexagonal in shape to the extent permitted by natural or political boundaries;

(4) To the extent consistent with subdivisions (1) to (3) of this subsection, communities shall be preserved. Districts shall satisfy this requirement if district lines follow political subdivision lines to the extent possible, using the following criteria, in order of priority. First, each county shall wholly contain as many districts as its population allows. Second, if a county wholly contains one or more districts, the remaining population shall be wholly joined in a single district made up of population from outside the county. If a county does not wholly contain a district, then no more than two segments of a county shall be combined with an adjoining county. Third, split counties and county segments, defined as any part of the county that is in a district not wholly within that county, shall each be as few as possible. Fourth, as few municipal lines shall be crossed as possible;

(5) Districts shall be drawn in a manner that achieves both partisan fairness and, secondarily, competitiveness, but the standards established by subdivisions (1) to (4) of this subsection shall take precedence over partisan fairness and competitiveness. "Partisan fairness" means that parties shall be able to translate their popular support into legislative representation with

approximately equal efficiency. "Competitiveness" means that parties' legislative representation shall be substantially and similarly responsive to shifts in the electorate's preferences.

To this end, the average electoral performance of the two political parties receiving the most votes in the three preceding general elections for governor, for United States Senate, and for President of the United States shall be calculated. This index shall be defined as the total votes received by each party in the three preceding general elections for governor, for United States Senate, and for President of the United States, divided by the total votes cast for both parties in these elections. Using this index, the total number of wasted votes for each party, summing across all of the districts in the plan shall be calculated. "Wasted votes" are votes cast for a losing candidate or for a winning candidate in excess of the threshold needed for victory. In any redistricting plan and map of the proposed districts, the difference between the two parties' total wasted votes, divided by the total votes cast for the two parties, shall not exceed fifteen percent.

To promote competitiveness, the electoral performance index shall be used to simulate elections in which the hypothetical statewide vote shifts by one percent, two percent, three percent, four percent, and five percent in favor of each party. The vote in each individual district shall be assumed to shift by the same amount as the statewide vote. In each of these simulated elections, the difference between the two parties' total wasted votes, divided by the total votes cast for the two parties, shall not exceed fifteen percent.

Source: Const. of 1945 (Amended January 14, 1966) (Amended November 2, 1982) (Amended November 6, 2018) (Amended November 3, 2020)

*Transferred 2018; formerly Article III, § 2. No continuity with previous Article III, § 3, repealed November 2, 1982, L. 1982 SJR 39, § 1 2nd Reg. Sess.

CROSS REFERENCE:

Voter qualifications, RSMo 115.133