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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 237
134th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Yuko and Sykes

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SUMMARY

- Establishes new congressional district boundaries for Ohio based on the results of the 2020 federal census.

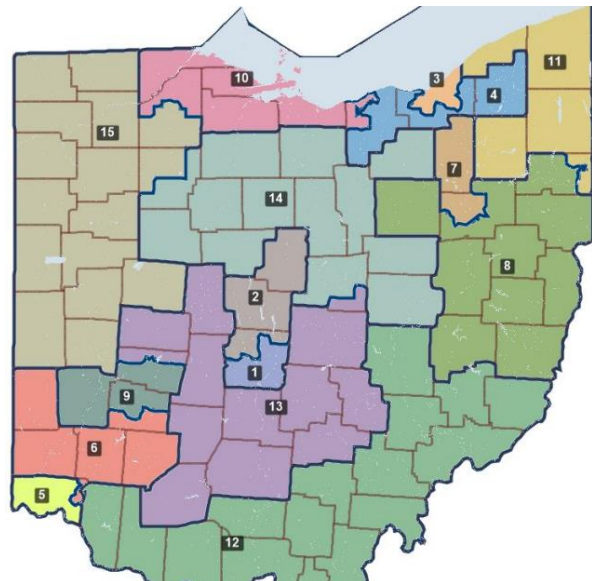
DETAILED ANALYSIS

Congressional district plan

Generally

The bill establishes new congressional district boundaries for Ohio based on the results of the 2020 federal census. Beginning in 2022, Ohio is entitled to 15 members of the U.S. House of Representatives instead of the current 16 members.

The bill describes each district by county, voting district, and census block.¹ “Voting district” is the Census Bureau’s term for an election precinct. The voting districts listed in the bill represent those precinct boundaries as of the date Ohio submitted its precinct geography to the Bureau to use for census purposes. The



Congressional districts under S.B. 237

¹ R.C. 3521.01 through 3521.0115. Each district’s number matches its assigned supplemental Revised Code section number – for example, District 1 is located in R.C. 3521.011, and District 15 is located in R.C. 3521.0115.

boards of elections might have changed some precinct boundaries since that time.

Please note that LSC did not generate the map image above and cannot verify that it accurately represents the districts as described in the bill.

Unassigned territory

Any territory that the bill does not assign to a district is included in the district with the least population, according to the 2020 census, that is contiguous to the unassigned territory.²

Definitions and incorporation by reference

As used in the bill, “census block,” “county,” and “voting district” have the same meanings and describe the same geographical boundaries as used by the Census Bureau in reporting the 2020 decennial census. The official report of the 2020 census and all official documents relating to the report are incorporated by reference into the bill.³

Background on congressional redistricting

The Ohio Constitution lays out the timelines, procedures, required votes, and district drawing standards for congressional redistricting, as adopted by Ohioans in a 2018 constitutional amendment.⁴ For an overview, see LSC’s Members Brief, [Redistricting in Ohio](#). For a more detailed explanation of the constitutional requirements for congressional redistricting, see LSC’s [final analysis of S.J.R. 5 of the 132nd General Assembly](#).

LSC cannot determine whether a given district plan complies with the Ohio Constitution, the U.S. Constitution, or federal law.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	09-29-21

S0237-I-134/ks

² R.C. 3521.01(B).

³ R.C. 3521.01(A).

⁴ Ohio Constitution, Article XIX.