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OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research
and Drafting

Legislative Budget
Office

S.B. 259
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Antonio

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SUMMARY

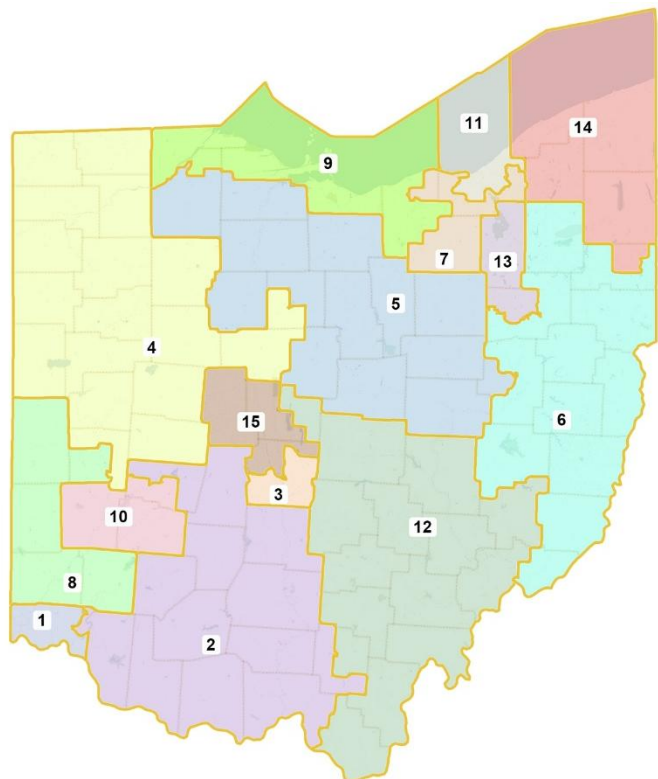
- Creates new congressional district boundaries for purposes of elections held in 2026, 2028, and 2030.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Congressional district plan

The bill establishes new congressional district boundaries for Ohio for purposes of elections held in 2026, 2028, and 2030.

Under the Ohio Constitution, the General Assembly must adopt a new congressional district plan in 2025 to replace the one used for the last two election cycles because the previous plan, adopted by the Ohio Redistricting Commission, was valid for the 2022 and 2024 elections. The new plan must use the same 2020 census and political subdivision boundary data as the last plan, regardless of any changes that may have occurred since 2020. In 2031, the state will adopt new districts again based on the results of the 2030 census.



*Congressional districts under S.B. 259,
as provided by the bill's sponsor*

The Constitution lays out the timelines, procedures, required votes, and district drawing standards for congressional redistricting, as adopted by Ohioans in a 2018 constitutional amendment.¹ For an overview, see LSC’s Members Brief, [Redistricting in Ohio](#) (PDF).² 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](#) (PDF).³

LSC cannot determine whether a given district plan complies with the Ohio Constitution, the U.S. Constitution, or federal law. We also did not generate the map image above and cannot verify that it accurately represents the districts as described in the bill.

Format and census geography

The bill describes each district by county, voting district, and census block, based on how those units appear in the official report of the 2020 census.⁴ “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 boards of elections might have changed some precinct boundaries since that time.

Under continuing law, any territory that is not assigned to a district is included in the district with the least population, according to the 2020 census, that is contiguous to the unassigned territory.⁵

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	09-10-25

ANSB0259IN-136/ts

¹ Ohio Constitution, Article XIX.

² Available on LSC’s website at lsc.ohio.gov under “Publications.”

³ Available on the General Assembly’s website at legislature.ohio.gov under “Search Legislation.”

⁴ 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.

⁵ R.C. 3521.01(B).