

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION C

January 22, 2007, Introduced by Rep. Steil and referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the state constitution of 1963, by amending sections 2, 3, and 54 of article IV, to reduce the number of senators and representatives and to increase term limits.

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the state of Michigan, That the following amendment to the state constitution of 1963, to reduce the number of senators and representatives and to increase term limits, is proposed, agreed to, and submitted to the people of the state:

ARTICLE IV

Sec. 2. ~~The~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE** senate shall consist of 38 members to be elected from single member

1 districts at the same **GENERAL** election as ~~AT WHICH~~ the governor **IS**
2 **ELECTED** for four-year terms concurrent with the term of office of
3 the governor. **FOLLOWING THE 2010 DECENNIAL CENSUS THAT REQUIRES A**
4 **NEW REDISTRICTING PLAN BE IMPLEMENTED, THE SENATE WILL CONSIST OF**
5 **20 MEMBERS.**

6 ~~—— In districting the state for the purpose of electing senators~~
7 ~~after the official publication of the total population count of~~
8 ~~each federal decennial census, each county shall be assigned~~
9 ~~apportionment factors equal to the sum of its percentage of the~~
10 ~~state's population as shown by the last regular federal decennial~~
11 ~~census computed to the nearest one one hundredth of one percent~~
12 ~~multiplied by four and its percentage of the state's land area~~
13 ~~computed to the nearest one one hundredth of one percent.~~

14 ~~—— In arranging the state into senatorial districts, the~~
15 ~~apportionment commission shall be governed by the following rules:~~

16 ~~—— (1) Counties with 13 or more apportionment factors shall be~~
17 ~~entitled as a class to senators in the proportion that the total~~
18 ~~apportionment factors of such counties bear to the total~~
19 ~~apportionment factors of the state computed to the nearest whole~~
20 ~~number. After each such county has been allocated one senator, the~~
21 ~~remaining senators to which this class of counties is entitled~~
22 ~~shall be distributed among such counties by the method of equal~~
23 ~~proportions applied to the apportionment factors.~~

24 ~~—— (2) Counties having less than 13 apportionment factors shall~~
25 ~~be entitled as a class to senators in the proportion that the total~~
26 ~~apportionment factors of such counties bear to the total~~
27 ~~apportionment factors of the state computed to the nearest whole~~

1 ~~number. Such counties shall thereafter be arranged into senatorial~~
2 ~~districts that are compact, convenient, and contiguous by land, as~~
3 ~~rectangular in shape as possible, and having as nearly as possible~~
4 ~~13 apportionment factors, but in no event less than 10 or more than~~
5 ~~16. Insofar as possible, existing senatorial districts at the time~~
6 ~~of reapportionment shall not be altered unless there is a failure~~
7 ~~to comply with the above standards.~~

8 ~~—— (3) Counties entitled to two or more senators shall be divided~~
9 ~~into single member districts. The population of such districts~~
10 ~~shall be as nearly equal as possible but shall not be less than 75~~
11 ~~percent nor more than 125 percent of a number determined by~~
12 ~~dividing the population of the county by the number of senators to~~
13 ~~which it is entitled. Each such district shall follow incorporated~~
14 ~~city or township boundary lines to the extent possible and shall be~~
15 ~~compact, contiguous, and as nearly uniform in shape as possible.~~

16 ~~Sec. 3. The~~ **EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE**
17 ~~house of representatives shall consist of 110 members elected for~~
18 ~~two-year terms from single member districts apportioned on a basis~~
19 ~~of population as provided in this article. The districts shall~~
20 ~~consist of compact and convenient territory contiguous by land.~~

21 **FOLLOWING THE 2010 DECENNIAL CENSUS THAT REQUIRES A NEW**
22 **REDISTRICTING PLAN BE IMPLEMENTED, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
23 **SHALL CONSIST OF 60 MEMBERS.**

24 ~~—— Each county which has a population of not less than seven-~~
25 ~~tenths of one percent of the population of the state shall~~
26 ~~constitute a separate representative area. Each county having less~~
27 ~~than seven tenths of one percent of the population of the state~~

~~1 shall be combined with another county or counties to form a
2 representative area of not less than seven tenths of one percent of
3 the population of the state. Any county which is isolated under the
4 initial allocation as provided in this section shall be joined with
5 that contiguous representative area having the smallest percentage
6 of the state's population. Each such representative area shall be
7 entitled initially to one representative.~~

~~8 — After the assignment of one representative to each of the
9 representative areas, the remaining house seats shall be
10 apportioned among the representative areas on the basis of
11 population by the method of equal proportions.~~

~~12 — Any county comprising a representative area entitled to two or
13 more representatives shall be divided into single member
14 representative districts as follows:~~

~~15 — (1) The population of such districts shall be as nearly equal
16 as possible but shall not be less than 75 percent nor more than 125
17 percent of a number determined by dividing the population of the
18 representative area by the number of representatives to which it is
19 entitled.~~

~~20 — (2) Such single member districts shall follow city and
21 township boundaries where applicable and shall be composed of
22 compact and contiguous territory as nearly square in shape as
23 possible.~~

~~24 — Any representative area consisting of more than one county,
25 entitled to more than one representative, shall be divided into
26 single member districts as equal as possible in population,
27 adhering to county lines.~~

1 Sec. 54. No person shall be elected to the office of state
2 representative more than ~~three~~**SIX** times. No person shall be
3 elected to the office of state senate more than ~~two~~**FOUR** times. Any
4 person appointed or elected to fill a vacancy in the house of
5 representatives or the state senate for a period greater than one
6 half of a term of such office, shall be considered to have been
7 elected to serve one time in that office for purposes of this
8 section. This limitation on the number of times a person shall be
9 elected to office shall apply to terms of office beginning on or
10 after January 1, 1993.

11 This section shall be self-executing. Legislation may be
12 enacted to facilitate operation of this section, but no law shall
13 limit or restrict the application of this section. If any part of
14 this section is held to be invalid or unconstitutional, the
15 remaining parts of this section shall not be affected but will
16 remain in full force and effect.

17 Resolved further, That the foregoing amendment shall be
18 submitted to the people of the state at the next general election
19 in the manner provided by law.