

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2606 Session of 2020

INTRODUCED BY DAY, YOUNGBLOOD, ROZZI AND SAPPEY, JUNE 23, 2020

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JUNE 23, 2020

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled  
 2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,  
 3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,  
 4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating  
 5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;  
 6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,  
 7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;  
 8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,  
 9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and  
 10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to  
 11 elections," providing for Congressional district standards.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
 13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. The act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), known  
 15 as the Pennsylvania Election Code, is amended by adding an  
 16 article to read:

17 ARTICLE XVIII-C

18 CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT STANDARDS

19 Section 1801-C. Equal population and division of political  
 20 subdivisions.

21 (a) General rule.--Congressional districts shall be composed  
 22 of compact and contiguous territory and shall each have a  
 23 population within the maximum population deviation permissible,

1 which shall be zero percent, except that a deviation from the  
2 ideal population of one or more districts is permissible if  
3 absolutely necessary to prevent the division of any county,  
4 city, incorporated town, borough or township with a population  
5 that is less than the ideal population of a congressional  
6 district.

7 (b) Election districts.--If a county, city, incorporated  
8 town, borough or township is divided to form one or more  
9 congressional districts, no election district within the county,  
10 city, incorporated town, borough or township may be divided, and  
11 the number of wards divided must be the minimum number necessary  
12 to achieve the equal population requirements under subsection  
13 (a).

14 Section 1802-C. Boundaries.

15 The boundaries of each congressional district shall be a  
16 single, nonintersecting continuous line.

17 Section 2. The addition of Article XVIII-C of the act shall  
18 apply to congressional redistricting that occurs after the  
19 decennial census required by Federal law to be conducted by the  
20 United States Census Bureau in every year ending in zero  
21 conducted after the effective date of this section.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.