

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 53rd Legislature (2012)

3 SENATE JOINT
4 RESOLUTION 82

By: Wilson

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State
8 to refer to the people for their approval or
9 rejection a proposed amendment to the Oklahoma
10 Constitution by adding a new Section 11F to Article
11 V; prohibiting certain legislative and congressional
12 districts from being enacted or affirmed if they fail
13 to meet certain standards; setting standards for such
14 legislative and congressional districts; conforming
15 certain provisions of law; making the standards, upon
16 approval of the voters apply to certain
17 redistricting; providing ballot title; and directing
18 filing.

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
20 2ND SESSION OF THE 53RD OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

21 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for
22 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,
23 the following proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution by
24 adding a new Section 11F to Article V to read as follows:

Section 11F. No Oklahoma State Legislative District or U.S.
Congressional District within Oklahoma shall be enacted or affirmed
which fails to satisfy these standards by classification (class) of
district.

1 A. In result, the number of voters in each electoral
2 subdivision shall be as nearly equal in population as is
3 practicable.

4 B. Exterior Boundaries shall be drawn with equal priority to
5 each of the following three standards:

6 1. Political Neutrality: The result shall not favor or disfavor
7 any political party, incumbent or challenger;

8 2. Equal Opportunity: The result shall not deny or abridge
9 equal opportunity of racial and language minorities nor diminish
10 their ability to elect representatives of their choice; and

11 3. Contiguity: The result shall consist of contiguous
12 territory;

13 C. To the extent practicable after having met the foregoing
14 standards, districts shall be compact with minimal perimeters,
15 utilizing existing geographical and political subdivision
16 boundaries.

17 1. No municipality shall be divided into more than one district
18 of the same class except to satisfy subsection A or B of this
19 section. If a municipality must be divided into more than one
20 district within the same class then:

21 a. the municipality shall be divided the fewest times
22 possible, and

23 b. distinct population groups and common communities of
24 interest shall be preserved.

1 2. No county shall be divided into more than one district of
2 the same class except to satisfy section A or B of this section. If
3 a county must be divided into more than one district within the same
4 class, then:

5 a. the county shall be divided the fewest times possible,
6 and

7 b. distinct population groups and common communities of
8 interest shall be preserved.

9 D. Any constitutional provision or existing law in conflict
10 herewith shall be interpreted to conform herewith.

11 E. This law shall become effective when approved by the voters,
12 and shall apply to any redistricting in process.

13 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional
14 amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in
15 the following form:

16 BALLOT TITLE
17 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

18 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

19 This measure adds a new section of law to the State
20 Constitution. It adds Section 11F to Article 5. It prohibits
21 state legislative or U.S. congressional districts to be enacted
22 unless they meet certain standards. The number of voters in
23 each district shall be as nearly equal in population as
24 practicable. The outside boundaries shall be drawn with equal

1 priority to political neutrality, equal opportunity and
2 contiguity. Districts shall be as compact as possible. If a
3 city must be divided, it shall be divided the fewest times
4 possible and communities of interest preserved. These standards
5 shall apply to any redistricting in process when approved.

6 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

7 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

8 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

9 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,
10 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file
11 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 1
12 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
13 General.

14
15 53-2-1822 LKS 1/19/2012 4:27:58 PM
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24