

BILL SUMMARY
1st Session of the 53rd Legislature

Bill No.:	SB821
Version:	CCS
Request Number:	1753
Author:	Speaker Steele/Rep. DeWitt Pres. Pro Tem. Bingman/Sen. Jolley
Date:	5/12/2011
Impact:	Pending

Research Analysis

The Conference Committee Substitute for Senate Bill 821 creates the “State Senate Redistricting Act of 2011.”

The CCS for SB 821 outlines qualifications for a candidate for the State Senate, to have been a registered voter and a resident within the district for six months prior to the candidate filing period (for regular elections, during the first Monday through Wednesday in June of even-numbered years). The measure provides for current Senators whose districts have been changed due to redistricting to move in order to qualify to seek reelection, but not be considered to have vacated their current district.

Senators elected in 2012 from even-numbered districts shall retain their seats until November 2016. Senators elected in 2010 from odd-numbered districts shall retain their seats until November 2014. Terms for Senators shall be staggered four-year terms.

The CCS for SB821 delineates 48 Senate districts by county, voting tabulation district (VTD), and Census Block. According to the 2010 Census, Oklahoma's total population is 3,751,351. Based upon the total state population, each state Senate district should have an ideal population of 78,153 people.

The measure requires the Department of Transportation (ODOT) to publish maps of the state Senate districts to be provided to the State Election Board.

The measure also requires the Speaker and President Pro Tempore to adjust House or Senate district lines to prevent the creation of zero-population precincts. Any adjustment is prohibited from affecting the total population of any House or Senate district.

The State Senate Redistricting Act of 2011 will be effective at the beginning of the terms of State Senators elected in November 2012, provided the State Election Board is required to conduct the 2012 elections for Oklahoma State Senate districts according to the act.

SB 821 removes outdated language due to the new language regarding candidate qualifications for State Senate. SB 821 also repeals the State Senate Redistricting Act of 2001.

Links to Maps:

SB 821 CCS – [Senate Districts Statewide Map](#)
SB 821 CCS – [Senate Districts Statewide Map \(Major roads\)](#)
SB 821 CCS – [Senate Districts urban counties and individual district maps](#)

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Other Considerations

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