

ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE



REPRESENTATIVE LES GARA

Sectional Analysis

HJR 26: Proposing amendments to the Constitution of the State of Alaska relating to the membership of the Redistricting Board and relating to district boundaries.

Section 1. District map shall not be drawn to favor an individual party or candidate, and district sizes shall be within 2 1/2 percent in population size of each other to minimize chances of gerrymandering.

Section 2. Board Membership: This section states that Board Members shall have voted in each of the previous four state general and primary elections. None may be public employees or officials at the time of their appointment. This section states that the Board shall be composed of 7 members, 2 members appointed by the party which received the most statewide legislative votes in the prior election; 2 members from the party that received the second most votes; and three members who do not belong to a political party.

Section 3. Deletes Current provisions allowing Senate president, House Speaker and Governor to choose four members, and the Supreme Court Chief Justice To Appoint the fifth.

Section 4. No Board member may have held a compensated or uncompensated position with a political party in the State or been elected to federal or state office.

The four Board members selected by political parties shall mutually vote to choose three more independent, non-partisan Board members. If they cannot agree on these three members, the Supreme Court will appoint these three final Board members. This section provides for a time period the court may hold an application period.

Section 5. The members of the Board shall vote by majority vote for a Chair of the Board. The Board may allow for temporary assistants. The Board shall be allowed resources for experts and mapping resources the Board considers necessary to draw a fair map.

Section 6. The Final plan shall be decided by a majority vote of Board members.

Section 7. The new plan in this Resolution shall be voted by voters as provided by the Alaska Constitution.