

REFERENCE TITLE: legislative districts; population; census; citizenship

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-seventh Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2025

## **SCR 1022**

Introduced by  
Senator Hoffman: Representative Hendrix

### A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; AMENDING ARTICLE IV, PART 2, SECTION 1, CONSTITUTION OF ARIZONA; RELATING TO LEGISLATIVE BOUNDARIES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona, the House of  
2 Representatives concurring:

3 1. Article IV, part 2, section 1, Constitution of Arizona, is  
4 proposed to be amended as follows if approved by the voters and on  
5 proclamation of the Governor:

6 1. Senate; house of representatives; members; special  
7 session on petition of members; census; state  
8 census fund; congressional and legislative  
9 boundaries; citizen commissions

10 Section 1. (1) The senate shall be composed of one  
11 member elected from each of the thirty legislative districts  
12 established pursuant to this section.

13 The house of representatives shall be composed of two  
14 members elected from each of the thirty legislative districts  
15 established pursuant to this section.

16 (2) ~~upon~~ ON the presentation to the governor of a  
17 petition bearing the signatures of ~~not less than~~ AT LEAST  
18 two-thirds of the members of each house, requesting a special  
19 session of the legislature and designating the date of  
20 convening, the governor shall promptly call a special session  
21 to assemble on the date specified. At a special session so  
22 called the subjects ~~which~~ THAT may be considered by the  
23 legislature shall not be limited.

24 (3) By February 28 of each year that ends in one, an  
25 independent redistricting commission shall be established to  
26 provide for the redistricting of congressional and state  
27 legislative districts. The independent redistricting  
28 commission shall consist of five members. ~~no~~ NOT more than  
29 two members of the independent redistricting commission shall  
30 be members of the same political party. Of the first four  
31 members appointed, ~~no~~ NOT more than two shall reside in the  
32 same county. Each member shall be a registered Arizona voter  
33 who has been continuously registered with the same political  
34 party or registered as unaffiliated with a political party for  
35 three or more years immediately preceding appointment, AND who  
36 is committed to applying the provisions of this section in an  
37 honest, independent and impartial fashion and to upholding  
38 public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting  
39 process. Within the three years previous to appointment,  
40 members shall not have been appointed to, elected to, or a  
41 candidate for any other public office, including precinct  
42 committeeman or committeewoman but not including school board  
43 member or officer, and shall not have served as an officer of  
44 a political party, or served as a registered paid lobbyist or  
45 as an officer of a candidate's campaign committee.

1 (4) The commission on appellate court appointments  
 2 shall nominate candidates for appointment to the independent  
 3 redistricting commission, except that, if a politically  
 4 balanced commission exists whose members are nominated by the  
 5 commission on appellate court appointments and whose regular  
 6 duties relate to the elective process, the commission on  
 7 appellate court appointments may delegate to such existing  
 8 commission (hereinafter called the commission on appellate  
 9 court appointments' designee) the duty of nominating members  
 10 for the independent redistricting commission, and all other  
 11 duties assigned to the commission on appellate court  
 12 appointments in this section.

13 (5) By January 8 of years ending in one, the commission  
 14 on appellate court appointments or its designee shall  
 15 establish a pool of persons who are willing to serve on and  
 16 are qualified for appointment to the independent redistricting  
 17 commission. The pool of candidates shall consist of  
 18 twenty-five nominees, with ten nominees from each of the two  
 19 largest political parties in Arizona based on party  
 20 registration, and five who are not registered with either of  
 21 the two largest political parties in Arizona.

22 (6) Appointments to the independent redistricting  
 23 commission shall be made in the order set forth below. ~~NO~~ NOT  
 24 later than January 31 of years ending in one, the highest  
 25 ranking officer elected by the Arizona house of  
 26 representatives shall make one appointment to the independent  
 27 redistricting commission from the pool of nominees, followed  
 28 by one appointment from the pool made in turn by each of the  
 29 following: the minority party leader of the Arizona house of  
 30 representatives, the highest ranking officer elected by the  
 31 Arizona senate, and the minority party leader of the Arizona  
 32 senate. Each such official shall have a seven-day period in  
 33 which to make an appointment. Any official who fails to make  
 34 an appointment within the specified time period will forfeit  
 35 the appointment privilege. In the event that there are two or  
 36 more minority parties within the house or the senate, the  
 37 leader of the largest minority party by statewide party  
 38 registration shall make the appointment.

39 (7) Any vacancy in the above four independent  
 40 redistricting commission positions remaining as of March 1 of  
 41 a year ending in one shall be filled from the pool of nominees  
 42 by the commission on appellate court appointments or its  
 43 designee. The appointing body shall strive for political  
 44 balance and fairness.

1 (8) At a meeting called by the secretary of state, the  
2 four independent redistricting commission members shall select  
3 by majority vote from the nomination pool a fifth member who  
4 shall not be registered with any party already represented on  
5 the independent redistricting commission and who shall serve  
6 as chair. If the four commissioners fail to appoint a fifth  
7 member within fifteen days, the commission on appellate court  
8 appointments or its designee, striving for political balance  
9 and fairness, shall appoint a fifth member from the nomination  
10 pool, who shall serve as ~~chair~~ CHAIRPERSON.

11 (9) The five commissioners shall then select by  
12 majority vote one of their members to serve as ~~vice-chair~~ VICE  
13 CHAIRPERSON.

14 (10) After having been served written notice and  
15 provided with an opportunity for a response, a member of the  
16 independent redistricting commission may be removed by the  
17 governor, with the concurrence of two-thirds of the senate,  
18 for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in  
19 office, or inability to discharge the duties of office.

20 (11) If a commissioner or ~~chair~~ CHAIRPERSON does not  
21 complete the term of office for any reason, the commission on  
22 appellate court appointments or its designee shall nominate a  
23 pool of three candidates within the first thirty days after  
24 the vacancy occurs. The nominees shall be of the same  
25 political party or status as was the member who vacated the  
26 office at the time of ~~his or her~~ THE MEMBER'S appointment, and  
27 the appointment other than the ~~chair~~ CHAIRPERSON shall be made  
28 by the current holder of the office designated to make the  
29 original appointment. The appointment of a new ~~chair~~  
30 CHAIRPERSON shall be made by the remaining commissioners. If  
31 the appointment of a replacement commissioner or ~~chair~~  
32 CHAIRPERSON is not made within fourteen days ~~following~~ AFTER  
33 the presentation of the nominees, the commission on appellate  
34 court appointments or its designee shall make the appointment,  
35 striving for political balance and fairness. The newly  
36 appointed commissioner shall serve out the remainder of the  
37 original term.

38 (12) Three commissioners, including the ~~chair~~  
39 CHAIRPERSON or ~~vice-chair~~ VICE CHAIRPERSON, constitute a  
40 quorum. Three or more affirmative votes are required for any  
41 official action. Where a quorum is present, the independent  
42 redistricting commission shall conduct business in meetings  
43 open to the public, with ~~48~~ FORTY-EIGHT or more hours public  
44 notice provided.

1 (13) A commissioner, during the commissioner's term of  
2 office and for three years thereafter, shall be ineligible for  
3 Arizona public office or for registration as a paid lobbyist.

4 (14) DURING EACH YEAR THAT ENDS IN ZERO, THE  
5 INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OR OTHER OFFICER OR BODY  
6 AS DESIGNATED BY THE LEGISLATURE SHALL TAKE A CENSUS. THE  
7 CENSUS SHALL BE COMPLETED NOT LATER THAN DECEMBER 31 OF EACH  
8 YEAR ENDING IN ZERO. THE CENSUS SHALL INCLUDE A TABULATION OF  
9 THE NUMBER OF UNITED STATES CITIZENS RESIDING IN THIS STATE  
10 AND ALL CITIZENS' RESIDENCES AND MAY BE CONDUCTED CONSISTENT  
11 WITH THE PROCEDURES AND METHODS ADOPTED BY THE UNITED STATES  
12 CENSUS BUREAU OR ITS SUCCESSOR AGENCY. THE INDEPENDENT  
13 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OR THE OFFICER OR BODY DESIGNATED BY  
14 THE LEGISLATURE TO CONDUCT THE CENSUS MAY NOT EMPLOY FEDERAL  
15 PRACTICES INCONSISTENT WITH THIS SUBSECTION. THE INDEPENDENT  
16 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION SHALL USE THE DATA COLLECTED FROM THE  
17 CENSUS TO DETERMINE THE CITIZEN POPULATION OF EACH LEGISLATIVE  
18 DISTRICT. IF A CENSUS IS NOT COMPLETED BY THE INDEPENDENT  
19 REDISTRICTING COMMISSION OR OTHER OFFICER OR BODY AS  
20 DESIGNATED BY THE LEGISLATURE BY DECEMBER 31 OF ANY YEAR  
21 ENDING IN ZERO, THE INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION SHALL  
22 USE THE MOST CURRENT DATA FROM THE UNITED STATES CENSUS BUREAU  
23 OR ITS SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO DETERMINE THE CITIZEN POPULATION OF  
24 EACH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT.

25 (15) THE STATE CENSUS FUND IS ESTABLISHED. THE  
26 INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION, OR OTHER OFFICER OR BODY  
27 DESIGNATED BY THE LEGISLATURE TO TAKE THE CENSUS REQUIRED BY  
28 THIS SECTION, SHALL ADMINISTER THE FUND. MONIES IN THE FUND  
29 ARE CONTINUOUSLY APPROPRIATED FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONDUCTING  
30 THE CENSUS. THE SUM OF \$5,000,000 IS TRANSFERRED IN EACH  
31 FISCAL YEAR FROM THE CITIZENS CLEAN ELECTION FUND ESTABLISHED  
32 BY 1998 PROPOSITION 200 TO THE STATE CENSUS FUND.

33 ~~(14)~~ (16) The independent redistricting commission  
34 shall establish congressional and legislative districts. The  
35 commencement of the mapping process for ~~both~~ the congressional  
36 ~~and legislative~~ districts shall be the creation of districts  
37 of equal population in a grid-like pattern across the state.  
38 THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE MAPPING PROCESS FOR THE LEGISLATIVE  
39 DISTRICTS SHALL BE THE CREATION OF DISTRICTS OF EQUAL CITIZEN  
40 POPULATION IN A GRID-LIKE PATTERN ACROSS THE STATE.  
41 Adjustments to the ~~grid~~ GRIDS shall then be made as necessary  
42 to accommodate the goals as set forth below:

43 ~~A.~~ (a) Districts shall comply with the United States  
44 Constitution and the United States voting rights act. ~~;~~

1           ~~B.~~ (b) Congressional districts shall have equal  
2 population to the extent practicable, and state legislative  
3 districts shall have equal CITIZEN population to the extent  
4 practicable. ~~;~~

5           ~~C.~~ (c) Districts shall be geographically compact and  
6 contiguous to the extent practicable. ~~;~~

7           ~~D.~~ (d) District boundaries shall respect communities  
8 of interest to the extent practicable. ~~;~~

9           ~~E.~~ (e) To the extent practicable, district lines shall  
10 use visible geographic features, city, town and county  
11 boundaries, and undivided census tracts. ~~;~~

12           ~~F.~~ (f) To the extent practicable, competitive  
13 districts should be favored where to do so would create no  
14 significant detriment to the other goals.

15           ~~(15)~~ (17) Party registration and voting history data  
16 shall be excluded from the initial phase of the mapping  
17 process but may be used to test maps for compliance with the  
18 above goals. The places of residence of incumbents or  
19 candidates shall not be identified or considered.

20           ~~(16)~~ (18) The independent redistricting commission  
21 shall advertise a draft map of congressional districts and a  
22 draft map of legislative districts to the public for comment,  
23 which comment shall be taken for at least thirty days. Either  
24 or both bodies of the legislature may act within this period  
25 to make recommendations to the independent redistricting  
26 commission by memorial or by minority report, which  
27 recommendations shall be considered by the independent  
28 redistricting commission. The independent redistricting  
29 commission shall then establish final district boundaries.

30           ~~(17)~~ (19) The provisions regarding this section are  
31 self-executing. The independent redistricting commission shall  
32 certify to the secretary of state the establishment of  
33 congressional and legislative districts.

34           ~~(18)~~ (20) ~~Upon~~ ON approval of this amendment, the  
35 department of administration or its successor shall make  
36 adequate office space available for the independent  
37 redistricting commission. The STATE treasurer ~~of the state~~  
38 shall make \$6,000,000 available for the work of the  
39 independent redistricting commission pursuant to the year 2000  
40 census. Unused monies shall be returned to the state's  
41 general fund. In years ending in eight or nine after the year  
42 2001, the department of administration or its successor shall  
43 submit to the legislature a recommendation for an  
44 appropriation for adequate redistricting expenses and shall  
45 make available adequate office space for the operation of the

1 independent redistricting commission. The legislature shall  
2 make the necessary appropriations by a majority vote.

3 ~~(19)~~ (21) The independent redistricting commission,  
4 with fiscal oversight from the department of administration or  
5 its successor, shall have procurement and contracting  
6 authority and may hire staff and consultants for the purposes  
7 of this section, including legal representation.

8 ~~(20)~~ (22) The independent redistricting commission  
9 shall have standing in legal actions regarding the  
10 redistricting plan and the adequacy of resources provided for  
11 the operation of the independent redistricting  
12 commission. The independent redistricting commission shall  
13 have sole authority to determine whether the Arizona attorney  
14 general or counsel hired or selected by the independent  
15 redistricting commission shall represent the people of Arizona  
16 in the legal defense of a redistricting plan.

17 ~~(21)~~ (23) Members of the independent redistricting  
18 commission are eligible for reimbursement of expenses pursuant  
19 to law, and a member's residence is deemed to be the member's  
20 post of duty for purposes of reimbursement of expenses.

21 ~~(22)~~ (24) Employees of the department of  
22 administration or its successor shall not influence or attempt  
23 to influence the district-mapping decisions of the independent  
24 redistricting commission.

25 ~~(23)~~ (25) Each commissioner's duties established by  
26 this section expire ~~upon~~ ON the appointment of the first  
27 member of the next redistricting commission. The independent  
28 redistricting commission shall not meet or incur expenses  
29 after the redistricting plan is completed, except if  
30 litigation or any government approval of the plan is pending,  
31 or to revise districts if required by court decisions or if  
32 the number of congressional or legislative districts is  
33 changed.

34 2. Standing and enforcement

35 Any member of the legislature shall have standing to  
36 initiate any action or proceedings to enforce the provisions  
37 of this act.

38 3. Findings and declaration of purpose

39 The legislature finds and declares as follows:

40 1. The 2020 federal census undercounted the population  
41 of this state, depriving this state of an additional seat in  
42 the United State House of Representatives and billions of  
43 dollars in funding.

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2. The rule of "one person, one vote" requires that legislative districts contain approximately equal populations. See *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964).

3. Also fundamental is the principle that only United States citizens may participate in the elections of this state. See article VII, section 2, Constitution of Arizona.

4. The guarantees prescribed in paragraphs 3 and 4 of this section are best harmonized by a redistricting process that equalizes the citizen population across legislative districts.

5. The United States supreme court has declined to limit redistricting methods to any single specific population metric and has expressly recognized the permissibility of drawing districts on the basis of eligible voter populations. See *Evenwell v. Abbott*, 578 U.S. 54 (2016); see also *Burns v. Richardson*, 384 U.S. 73 (1966).

6. An Arizona specific decennial census of the citizen population will ensure that redistricting determinations are predicated on accurate and current data.

2. The Secretary of State shall submit this proposition to the voters at the next general election as provided by article XXI, Constitution of Arizona.