STATE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS

HOUSE



SENATE SFATS

WHO DRAWS THE DISTRICTS?

NONPARTISAN LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY and **ADVISORY COMMISSION**

- Five members: Senate and House majority and minority leaders each select one, those four select the fifth member
- Commissioners must be eligible lowa voters
- Commissioners cannot hold partisan public office or political party office
- Commissioners cannot be relatives or employees of members of the Legislature or Congress

HOW ARE DISTRICTS DRAWN?

Process

- Legislative Services Agency draws the lines and consults advisory commission when decisions must be made for which there are no applicable guidelines
- State Legislature approves the plan
- Governor can veto the plan
- State Supreme Court reviews the plan if a qualified voter
- If the Legislature fails to adopt a plan by Sept. 15, the state Supreme Court draws the lines

State-Level Criteria

- Compactness, as defined by statute
- Contiguity
- Ranked: No
- Follow political boundaries
- No favoritism toward person, party, or group No augmenting or diluting minority group voting strength
- Nest House districts in Senate districts

Public Hearings

Advisory commission must hold three public hearings in different regions

Timing

- Legislative Services Agency submits final plans to the legislature by April 1 in years ending in 1
- Advisory commission submits a report summarizing findings from the public hearings to the legislature no more than fourteen days after the legislative services agency submits the plans
- Legislature votes on plans expeditiously and must adopt a plan by September 1
- If the Legislature fails to adopt a plan by September 15, the state Supreme Court adopts a plan by December 31



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

4 SEATS

through 2020. Projected after reapportionment: No change **Process**

• Same as for state legislative districts

State-Level Criteria

- Follow political boundaries
- Contiguity
- Compactness, as defined by statute
- No favoritism toward person, party, or group
- No augmenting or diluting minority group voting strength

Timing

Same as for state legislative districts

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