

HCS HJR 60 -- GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEMBERSHIP

SPONSOR: McNary (Black)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 8 to 5.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment reduces the number of members of the Missouri House of Representatives from 163 to 102 beginning with the 102nd General Assembly.

The resolution changes the criteria for drawing legislative districts to require two former members of the House of Representatives to be appointed to the Congressional District Committee to establish the numbers and boundaries of the districts. Each district must be composed of contiguous territory as compact as may be and must follow existing county boundary lines as nearly as possible, except that avoiding or limiting the crossing of natural boundaries such as waterways may be considered, when determining district boundaries. If a county boundary line must be crossed in order to meet the equal population and compactness requirements, each remaining portion of the county must be as nearly equal in population utilizing a horizontal and vertical measurement method to insure a square-shaped a district as may be possible.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund of an income of \$0 to a cost of More than \$7,000,000 in FY 2013, an income of \$0 in FY 2014, and an income of \$0 in FY 2015. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows a vote of the people in the November 2012 election to decrease the membership of the House of Representatives. This would be a good faith gesture to the citizens to show them government is willing to downsize the legislature in addition to all the other cuts that have been made to state government. There will be a one time hit, but after that it would cause the legislature to be more streamlined. The costs would decrease through reductions in salary, benefits, mileage, per diem, and support staff.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Black.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.