

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2001

H

1

HOUSE BILL 1075

Short Title: No Multimember Districts. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Shubert, Blue; Daughtry, Harrington, Pope, Adams, Blust, Capps, Culp, Davis, Decker, Rayfield, Sexton, Thompson, and Weatherly.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House.

April 10, 2001

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO REQUIRE SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS FOR ELECTION TO THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 3 of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution reads as rewritten:

**"Sec. 3. Senate districts; apportionment of Senators.**

The Senators shall be elected from single-member districts. The General Assembly, at the first regular session convening after the return of every decennial census of population taken by order of Congress, shall revise the senate ~~districts and the apportionment of Senators among those districts~~, subject to the following requirements:

(1) Each Senator shall represent, as nearly as may be, an equal number of ~~inhabitants, the number of inhabitants that each Senator represents being determined for this purpose by dividing the population of the district that he represents by the number of Senators apportioned to that district;~~ inhabitants;

(2) Each senate district shall at all times consist of contiguous territory;

(3) No county shall be divided in the formation of a senate district;

(4) When established, the senate districts and the apportionment of Senators shall remain unaltered until the return of another decennial census of population taken by order of Congress."

**SECTION 2.** Section 5 of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution reads as rewritten:

**"Sec. 5. Representative districts; apportionment of Representatives.**

The Representatives shall be elected from single-member districts. The General Assembly, at the first regular session convening after the return of every decennial census of population taken by order of Congress, shall revise the representative ~~districts~~

1 and the apportionment of Representatives among those districts, subject to the following  
2 requirements:

3 (1) Each Representative shall represent, as nearly as may be, an equal number of  
4 ~~inhabitants, the number of inhabitants that each Representative represents being~~  
5 ~~determined for this purpose by dividing the population of the district that he represents~~  
6 ~~by the number of Representatives apportioned to that district;~~inhabitants;

7 (2) Each representative district shall at all times consist of contiguous territory;

8 (3) No county shall be divided in the formation of a representative district;

9 (4) When established, the representative districts and the apportionment of  
10 Representatives shall remain unaltered until the return of another decennial census of  
11 population taken by order of Congress."

12 **SECTION 3.** The amendments set out in Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall be  
13 submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2002,  
14 which election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State.  
15 Ballots, voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the  
16 General Statutes. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

17 **"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST**

18 Constitutional amendments requiring single-member districts for election to  
19 the General Assembly."

20 **SECTION 4.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
21 amendments set out in Sections 1 and 2 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall  
22 certify the amendments to the Secretary of State. Sections 1 and 2 apply beginning with  
23 members of the General Assembly elected in the 2004 general election. If any  
24 multimember districts for election to the Senate or the House of Representatives were  
25 used in the 2002 general election, the General Assembly shall divide those into  
26 single-member districts for use beginning in the 2004 general election.

27 **SECTION 5.** This act is effective when it becomes law.