

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2248

To prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, to require States to conduct such redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2007

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California (for herself, Mrs. CAPPS, Mr. COSTA, Mr. CARDOZA, Ms. ESHOO, Mr. FARR, Mr. FILNER, Ms. HARMAN, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MCNERNEY, Ms. MATSUI, Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California, Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California, Mr. SCHIFF, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. SOLIS, Mr. STARK, Mrs. TAUSCHER, Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. HONDA, and Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To prohibit States from carrying out more than one Congressional redistricting after a decennial census and apportionment, to require States to conduct such redistricting through independent commissions, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDING OF CONSTITUTIONAL**
2 **AUTHORITY.**

3 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
4 “Redistricting Reform Act of 2007”.

5 (b) **FINDING.**—Congress finds that it has the author-
6 ity to establish the terms and conditions States must fol-
7 low in carrying out Congressional redistricting after an
8 apportionment of Members of the House of Representa-
9 tives because—

10 (1) the authority granted to Congress under ar-
11 ticle I, section 4 of the Constitution of the United
12 States gives Congress the power to enact laws gov-
13 erning the time, place, and manner of elections for
14 Members of the House of Representatives; and

15 (2) the authority granted to Congress under
16 section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Con-
17 stitution gives Congress the power to enact laws to
18 enforce section 2 of such amendment, which requires
19 Representatives to be apportioned among the several
20 States according to their number.

21 **SEC. 2. LIMIT ON CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING AFTER**
22 **AN APPORTIONMENT.**

23 The Act entitled “An Act for the relief of Doctor Ri-
24 cardo Vallejo Samala and to provide for congressional re-
25 districting”, approved December 14, 1967 (2 U.S.C. 2c),
26 is amended by adding at the end the following: “A State

1 which has been redistricted in the manner provided by law
2 after an apportionment under section 22(a) of the Act en-
3 titled ‘An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent
4 decennial censuses and to provide for an apportionment
5 of Representatives in Congress’, approved June 18, 1929
6 (2 U.S.C. 2a), may not be redistricted again until after
7 the next apportionment of Representatives under such sec-
8 tion, unless a court requires the State to conduct such
9 subsequent redistricting to comply with the Constitution
10 or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C.
11 1973 et seq.).”.

12 **SEC. 3. REQUIRING REDISTRICTING TO BE CONDUCTED**
13 **THROUGH PLAN OF INDEPENDENT STATE**
14 **COMMISSION OR PLAN OF HIGHEST STATE**
15 **COURT.**

16 (a) USE OF PLAN REQUIRED.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
18 provision of law, any Congressional redistricting con-
19 ducted by a State shall be conducted in accordance
20 with—

21 (A) the redistricting plan developed by the
22 independent redistricting commission estab-
23 lished in the State, in accordance with section
24 5; or

1 (B) if the plan developed by such commis-
2 sion is not enacted into law, the redistricting
3 plan selected by the highest court in the State
4 or developed by a United States district court,
5 in accordance with section 6.

6 (2) OTHER CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES PER-
7 MITTED.—Nothing in this Act or the amendments
8 made by this Act may be construed to prohibit a
9 State from conducting Congressional redistricting in
10 accordance with such criteria and procedures as the
11 State considers appropriate, to the extent that such
12 criteria and procedures are consistent with the appli-
13 cable requirements of this Act and the amendments
14 made by this Act.

15 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 22(c) of
16 the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the fifteenth and
17 subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an ap-
18 portionment of Representatives in Congress”, approved
19 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking
20 “in the manner provided by the law thereof” and insert-
21 ing: “in the manner provided by the Redistricting Reform
22 Act of 2007”.

23 **SEC. 4. INDEPENDENT, BI-PARTISAN REDISTRICTING COM-**
24 **MISSION.**

25 (a) APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall establish
2 an independent redistricting commission composed
3 of the following:

4 (A) A chair, who shall be appointed by ma-
5 jority vote of the other members of the commis-
6 sion.

7 (B) An equal number of members (but not
8 fewer than 1) from each of the following cat-
9 egories:

10 (i) Members affiliated with the polit-
11 ical party with the greatest number of
12 seats in the upper house of the State legis-
13 lature, who shall be appointed by the mem-
14 bers of that house who represent the polit-
15 ical party with the second greatest number
16 of seats in that house.

17 (ii) Members affiliated with the polit-
18 ical party with the second greatest number
19 of seats in the upper house of the State
20 legislature, who shall be appointed by the
21 members of that house who represent the
22 political party with the greatest number of
23 seats in that house.

24 (iii) Members affiliated with the polit-
25 ical party with the greatest number of

1 seats in the lower house of the State legis-
2 lature, who shall be appointed by the mem-
3 bers of that house who represent the polit-
4 ical party with the second greatest number
5 of seats in that house.

6 (iv) Members affiliated with the polit-
7 ical party with the second greatest number
8 of seats in the lower house of the State
9 legislature, who shall be appointed by the
10 members of that house who represent the
11 political party with the greatest number of
12 seats in that house.

13 (C) A number of members who are not af-
14 filiated with any of the political parties referred
15 to in subparagraph (B), who shall be appointed
16 by not fewer than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members appointed
17 under subparagraph (B), such that the percent-
18 age of the members of the commission who are
19 appointed under this subparagraph is equal to
20 the percentage of registered voters in the State
21 who are not affiliated with any of the political
22 parties referred to in subparagraph (B) (with
23 respect to the most recent statewide election for
24 Federal office held in the State for which such
25 information is available).

1 (2) SPECIAL RULE FOR STATES WITH UNICAM-
2 ERAL LEGISLATURE.—In the case of a State with a
3 unicameral legislature, the independent redistricting
4 commission established under this subsection shall
5 be composed of the following:

6 (A) A chair, who shall be appointed by ma-
7 jority vote of the other members of the commis-
8 sion.

9 (B) An equal number of members (but not
10 fewer than 2) from each of the following cat-
11 egories:

12 (i) Members appointed by a member
13 of the legislature who shall be selected by
14 the chair of the Government Affairs Com-
15 mittee of the legislature to represent the
16 State political party whose candidate for
17 chief executive of the State received the
18 greatest number of votes on average in the
19 3 most recent general elections for that of-
20 fice.

21 (ii) Members appointed by a member
22 of the legislature who shall be selected by
23 the chair of the Government Affairs Com-
24 mittee of the legislature to represent the
25 State political party whose candidate for

1 chief executive of the State received the
2 second greatest number of votes on aver-
3 age in the 3 most recent general elections
4 for that office.

5 (C) A number of members who are not af-
6 filiated with any of the political parties referred
7 to in subparagraph (B), who shall be appointed
8 by not fewer than $\frac{2}{3}$ of the members appointed
9 under subparagraph (B), such that the percent-
10 age of the members of the commission who are
11 appointed under this subparagraph is equal to
12 the percentage of registered voters in the State
13 who are not affiliated with any of the political
14 parties referred to in subparagraph (B) (with
15 respect to the most recent statewide election for
16 Federal office held in the State for which such
17 information is available).

18 (3) DETERMINATION OF POLITICAL PARTY AF-
19 FILIATION.—For purposes of this subsection, an in-
20 dividual shall be considered to be affiliated with a
21 political party if the individual is registered with the
22 party with respect to each of the 3 most recent elec-
23 tions for Federal office occurring prior to the indi-
24 vidual's appointment.

25 (b) ELIGIBILITY.—

1 (1) IN GENERAL.—An individual is eligible to
2 serve as a member of an independent redistricting
3 commission if—

4 (A) as of the date of appointment, the in-
5 dividual is registered to vote in elections for
6 Federal office held in the State, and was reg-
7 istered to vote in the 2 most recent general
8 elections for Federal office held in the State;

9 (B) the individual did not hold public office
10 or run as a candidate for election for public of-
11 fice, or serve as an employee of a political party
12 or candidate for election for public office, at
13 any time during the 4-year period ending on the
14 December 31 preceding the date of appoint-
15 ment; and

16 (C) the individual certifies that he or she
17 will not run as a candidate for the office of
18 Representative in the Congress until after the
19 next apportionment of Representatives under
20 section 22(a) of the Act entitled “An Act to
21 provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decen-
22 nial censuses and to provide for an apportion-
23 ment of Representatives in Congress”, approved
24 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a).

1 (2) DISCRIMINATION.—The membership of the
2 Commission shall not be selected in a manner which
3 results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any
4 citizen of the United States to vote on account of
5 race or color. A violation of this subsection is estab-
6 lished if, based on the totality of circumstances, it
7 is shown that the membership of the Commission is
8 not equally open to participation by members of a
9 class of citizens protected by this subsection in that
10 its members have less opportunity than other mem-
11 bers of the electorate to participate in the political
12 process and to elect representatives of their choice.

13 (c) VACANCY.—A vacancy in the commission shall be
14 filled in the manner in which the original appointment was
15 made.

16 (d) DEADLINE.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Each State shall establish a
18 commission under this section, and the members of
19 the commission shall appoint the commission's chair,
20 not later than the first February 1 which occurs
21 after the chief executive of a State receives the State
22 apportionment notice.

23 (2) APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR REQUIRED PRIOR
24 TO DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLAN.—The
25 commission may not take any action to develop a re-

1 districting plan for the State under section 5 until
2 the appointment of the commission's chair.

3 (e) REQUIRING MAJORITY APPROVAL FOR AC-
4 TIONS.—The independent redistricting commission of a
5 State may not submit a redistricting plan to the State leg-
6 islature, or take any other action, without the approval
7 of at least a majority of its members given at a meeting
8 at which at least a majority of its members are present.

9 (f) TERMINATION.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—The independent redis-
11 tricting commission of a State shall terminate on the
12 day after the date of the first regularly scheduled
13 general election for Federal office which occurs after
14 the chief executive of the State receives the State
15 apportionment notice.

16 (2) PRESERVATION OF RECORDS.—The State
17 shall ensure that the records of the independent re-
18 districting commission are retained in the appro-
19 priate State archive in such manner as may be nec-
20 essary to enable the State to respond to any civil ac-
21 tion brought with respect to Congressional redis-
22 tricting in the State.

1 **SEC. 5. DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLAN BY INDE-**
2 **PENDENT COMMISSION; PUBLIC NOTICE AND**
3 **INPUT.**

4 (a) DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLAN.—

5 (1) CRITERIA.—The independent redistricting
6 commission of a State shall develop a redistricting
7 plan for the State in accordance with the following
8 criteria:

9 (A) Districts shall comply with the Con-
10 stitution of the United States and the Voting
11 Rights Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 1971 et seq.).
12 The plan shall neither disperse nor concentrate
13 minority populations protected under the Vot-
14 ing Rights Act in a manner that has an adverse
15 effect on their ability to elect their candidate of
16 choice.

17 (B) District boundaries shall respect com-
18 munities of interest to the extent practicable.
19 Communities of interest shall include, but not
20 be limited to, shared socio-economic status
21 characteristics, history of joint governmental co-
22 operation, housing characteristics, language at
23 home, educational attainment levels, and neigh-
24 borhoods. Communities of interest shall not be
25 defined as representation by a particular legis-
26 lator.

1 (C) Districts shall each have equal popu-
2 lation per representative, to the extent prac-
3 ticable, and in accordance with federal constitu-
4 tional standards.

5 (D) Districts shall be geographically con-
6 tiguous.

7 (E) To the extent practicable, district lines
8 shall use visible geographic features and shall
9 remain within geographic boundaries.

10 (F) To the extent practicable and con-
11 sistent with subparagraphs (A), (B), (C), (D),
12 and (E), district lines shall use city and county
13 boundaries, or undivided census tracts or block
14 groups.

15 (G) To the extent practicable, districts
16 shall be geographically compact.

17 (2) FACTORS PROHIBITED FROM CONSIDER-
18 ATION.—In developing the redistricting plan for the
19 State, the independent redistricting commission may
20 not take into consideration any of the following fac-
21 tors, except to the extent necessary to comply with
22 the Voting Rights Act of 1965:

23 (A) The voting history of the population of
24 a Congressional district, except that the com-
25 mission may take such history into consider-

1 ation to the extent necessary to comply with
2 any State law which requires the establishment
3 of competitive Congressional districts.

4 (B) The political party affiliation of the
5 population of a district.

6 (C) The residence of incumbent Members
7 of the House of Representatives in the State.

8 (3) PUBLIC NOTICE AND INPUT.—

9 (A) PUBLIC HEARINGS; SOLICITATION OF
10 INPUT FROM PUBLIC.—The commission shall
11 hold each of its meetings in public, and shall so-
12 licit and take into consideration comments from
13 the public in developing the redistricting plan
14 for the State. The commission shall notify the
15 public through the publication of notice in
16 newspapers of general circulation throughout
17 the State, and through a public Internet site of
18 the State government, of the time and place of
19 its meetings, of its solicitation of public com-
20 ments, and of the means by which the public
21 should submit comments to the commission.

22 (B) NOTICE OF PLANS.—At the time the
23 commission submits a redistricting plan to the
24 legislature of the State under subsection (b)(1),
25 the commission shall notify the public through

1 the publication of notice in newspapers of gen-
2 eral circulation throughout the State, and shall
3 publish a detailed version of the plan (including
4 a map showing each Congressional district es-
5 tablished under the plan and the voting age
6 population by race of each such district) on a
7 public Internet site of the State government.
8 The commission shall provide such public notice
9 of any redistricting plan it develops for a min-
10 imum of four weeks prior to submission of that
11 plan to the legislature as provided for in sub-
12 section (b).

13 (b) SUBMISSION OF PLANS TO LEGISLATURE.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—At any time prior to the
15 first November 1 which occurs after the chief execu-
16 tive of the State receives the State apportionment
17 notice, the commission may submit redistricting
18 plans developed by the commission under this sec-
19 tion to the legislature of the State.

20 (2) CONSIDERATION OF PLAN BY LEGISLA-
21 TURE.—After receiving any redistricting plan under
22 paragraph (1), the legislature of a State may—

23 (A) approve the plan as submitted by the
24 commission without amendment and forward
25 the plan to the chief executive of the State; or

1 (B) reject the plan.

2 (3) ENACTMENT OF PLAN.—

3 (A) IN GENERAL.—A redistricting plan de-
4 veloped by the commission shall be considered
5 to be enacted into law only if the plan is for-
6 warded to the chief executive of the State pur-
7 suant to paragraph (2)(A) and—

8 (i) the chief executive approves the
9 plan as forwarded by the legislature with-
10 out amendment; or

11 (ii) the chief executive vetoes the plan
12 and the legislature overrides the veto in ac-
13 cordance with the applicable law of the
14 State, except that at no time may the plan
15 be amended.

16 (B) SPECIAL RULE.—In the case of a
17 State in which the chief executive is prohibited
18 under State law from acting on a redistricting
19 plan, a redistricting plan developed by the com-
20 mission shall be considered to be enacted into
21 law if—

22 (i) the plan is submitted to the legisla-
23 ture of the State; and

1 (ii) the legislature approves the plan
2 as submitted by the commission without
3 amendment.

4 **SEC. 6. SELECTION OF PLAN BY COURTS.**

5 (a) STATE COURT.—

6 (1) SUBMISSION AND SELECTION OF PLAN.—If
7 a redistricting plan developed by the independent re-
8 districting commission of a State is not enacted into
9 law under section 5(b)(3) by the first November 1
10 which occurs after the chief executive of the State
11 receives the State apportionment notice, the commis-
12 sion may submit redistricting plans developed by the
13 commission in accordance with section 5 to the high-
14 est court of the State, which may select and publish
15 one of the submitted plans to serve as the redis-
16 tracting plan for the State.

17 (2) NO MODIFICATION OF PLAN PERMITTED.—

18 The highest court of a State may not modify any re-
19 districting plan submitted under this subsection.

20 (b) FEDERAL COURT.—

21 (1) FAILURE OF STATE COURT TO SELECT
22 PLAN.—

23 (A) NOTICE TO COURT IF PLAN NOT SE-
24 LECTED BY STATE COURT.—If a State court to
25 whom redistricting plans have been submitted

1 under subsection (a) does not select a plan to
2 serve as the redistricting plan for the State
3 under such subsection on or before the first De-
4 cember 1 which occurs after the chief executive
5 of the State receives the State apportionment
6 notice, the State shall file a notice with the
7 United States district court for the district in
8 which the capital of the State is located.

9 (B) DEVELOPMENT AND SELECTION OF
10 PLAN BY FEDERAL COURT.—Not later than 30
11 days after receiving a notice from a State under
12 subparagraph (A), the court shall develop and
13 publish a final redistricting plan for the State.

14 (2) FAILURE OF STATE TO ESTABLISH COMMIS-
15 SION.—

16 (A) IN GENERAL.—If a State does not es-
17 tablish an independent redistricting commission
18 under section 4 by the first September 1 which
19 occurs after the chief executive of the State re-
20 ceives the State apportionment notice—

21 (i) the State may not establish the
22 commission; and

23 (ii) the United States district court
24 for the district in which the capital of the
25 State is located shall develop and publish

1 a final redistricting plan for the State not
2 later than the first December 1 which oc-
3 curs after the chief executive of the State
4 receives the State apportionment notice.

5 (B) DETERMINATION OF FAILURE TO ES-
6 TABLISH COMMISSION.—For purposes of sub-
7 paragraph (A), a State shall be considered to
8 have failed to establish an independent redis-
9 tricting commission by the date referred to in
10 such subparagraph if a chair of the commission
11 has not been appointed on or before such date.

12 (3) CRITERIA.—It is the sense of Congress
13 that, in developing a redistricting plan for a State
14 under this subsection, the district court should ad-
15 here to the same terms and conditions that applied
16 to the development of the plan of the commission
17 under section 5(a).

18 (c) ACCESS TO INFORMATION AND RECORDS OF
19 COMMISSION.—A court which is required to select, pub-
20 lish, or develop a redistricting plan for a State under this
21 section shall have access to any information, data, soft-
22 ware, or other records and material used by the inde-
23 pendent redistricting commission of the State in carrying
24 out its duties under this Act.

1 **SEC. 7. SPECIAL RULE FOR REDISTRICTING CONDUCTED**
2 **UNDER ORDER OF FEDERAL COURT.**

3 If a Federal court requires a State to conduct redis-
4 tricting subsequent to an apportionment of Representa-
5 tives in the State in order to comply with the Constitution
6 or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965, sections 5
7 and 6 shall apply with respect to the redistricting, except
8 that—

9 (1) the deadline for the establishment of the
10 independent redistricting commission and the ap-
11 pointment of the commission's chair (as described in
12 section 4(d)(1)) shall be the expiration of the 30-day
13 period which begins on the date of the final order of
14 the Federal court to conduct the redistricting;

15 (2) the deadline for the submission of redis-
16 tricting plans to the legislature by the commission,
17 and the date of the termination of the commission
18 (as described in section 4(f)) shall be the expiration
19 of the 150-day period which begins on the date of
20 the final order of the Federal court to conduct the
21 redistricting;

22 (3) the deadline for the selection and publica-
23 tion of the plan by the highest court of the State (as
24 described in section 6(a)) shall be the expiration of
25 the 180-day period which begins on the date of the

1 final order of the Federal court to conduct the redistricting; and

2
3 (4) the deadline for the selection and publication of the plan by the district court of the United States (as described in section 6(b)) shall be the expiration of the 210-day period which begins on the date of the final order of the Federal court to conduct the redistricting.

9 **SEC. 8. PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CARRYING OUT REDISTRICTING.**

10
11 (a) **AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENTS.**—Subject to subsection (d), not later than 30 days after a State receives a State apportionment notice, the Election Assistance Commission shall make a payment to the State in an amount equal to the product of—

12
13 (1) the number of Representatives to which the State is entitled, as provided under the notice; and

14
15 (2) \$150,000.

16
17 (b) **USE OF FUNDS.**—A State shall use the payment made under this section to establish and operate the State’s independent redistricting commission, to implement the State redistricting plan, and to otherwise carry out Congressional redistricting in the State.

18
19 (c) **NO PAYMENT TO STATES WITH SINGLE MEMBER.**—The Election Assistance Commission shall not

1 make a payment under this section to any State which
2 is not entitled to more than one Representative under its
3 State apportionment notice.

4 (d) REQUIRING ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMISSION AS
5 CONDITION OF PAYMENT.—The Election Assistance Com-
6 mission may not make a payment to a State under this
7 section until the State certifies to the Commission that
8 the State has established an independent redistricting
9 commission, and that a chair of the commission has been
10 appointed, in accordance with section 4.

11 (e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
12 are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
13 necessary for payments under this section.

14 **SEC. 9. STATE APPORTIONMENT NOTICE DEFINED.**

15 In this Act, the “State apportionment notice” means,
16 with respect to a State, the notice sent to the State from
17 the Clerk of the House of Representatives under section
18 22(b) of the Act entitled “An Act to provide for the fif-
19 teenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide
20 for an apportionment of Representatives in Congress”, ap-
21 proved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), of the number of
22 Representatives to which the State is entitled.

1 **SEC. 10. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT AND PRIVATE RIGHT OF AC-**
2 **TION.**

3 (a) ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The Attorney General
4 may bring a civil action in an appropriate district court
5 for such declaratory or injunctive relief as is necessary to
6 carry out this Act.

7 (b) AVAILABILITY OF PRIVATE RIGHT OF ACTION.—

8 (1) ACTION CHALLENGING CONTENTS OF STATE
9 REDISTRICTING PLAN.—A person who is aggrieved
10 by a violation of this Act which consists of the fail-
11 ure of a State redistricting plan enacted into law
12 under section 5(b)(3) to be in compliance with para-
13 graph (1) or paragraph (2) of section 5(a) may
14 bring a civil action in an appropriate district court
15 for declaratory or injunctive relief.

16 (2) OTHER ACTIONS.—A person who is ag-
17 grieved by a violation of this Act which is not de-
18 scribed in paragraph (1) may bring a civil action in
19 an appropriate district court for declaratory or in-
20 junctive relief with respect to the violation if—

21 (A) the person provides written notice of
22 the violation to the chair of the independent re-
23 districting commission of the State involved;

24 (B) the violation is not corrected during
25 the 90-day period which begins on the date of
26 the receipt of the written notice; and

1 (C) the person brings the action not later
2 than 30 days after the expiration of the 90-day
3 period referred to in clause (ii).

4 (3) STATUTE OF LIMITATIONS.—No civil action
5 may be brought under this subsection with respect
6 to a State after the expiration of the 30-day period
7 which begins on the date the State redistricting plan
8 is enacted into law under section 5(b)(3).

9 (c) EXPEDITED JUDICIAL REVIEW.—In any action
10 brought for declaratory or injunctive relief under this sec-
11 tion, the following rules shall apply:

12 (1) The action shall be filed in the appropriate
13 United States district court and shall be heard by a
14 3-judge court convened pursuant to section 2284 of
15 title 28, United States Code.

16 (2) The 3-judge court shall consolidate actions
17 brought for relief under subsection (b)(1) with re-
18 spect to the same State redistricting plan.

19 (3) A copy of the complaint shall be delivered
20 promptly to the Clerk of the House of Representa-
21 tives and the Secretary of the Senate.

22 (4) A final decision in the action shall be re-
23 viewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme
24 Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be
25 taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10

1 days, and the filing of a jurisdictional statement
2 within 30 days, of the entry of the final decision.

3 (5) It shall be the duty of the district court and
4 the Supreme Court of the United States to advance
5 on the docket and to expedite to the greatest pos-
6 sible extent the disposition of the action and appeal.

7 (d) LOCATION OF COURT.—For purposes of an action
8 under this section, the appropriate district court shall be
9 the district court of the United States for the district
10 which includes the capital of the State involved.

11 (e) ATTORNEY'S FEES.—In a civil action under this
12 section, the court may allow the prevailing party (other
13 than the United States) reasonable attorney fees, includ-
14 ing litigation expenses, and costs.

15 (f) RELATION TO OTHER LAWS.—(1) The rights and
16 remedies established by this section are in addition to all
17 other rights and remedies provided by law, and neither
18 the rights and remedies established by this section nor any
19 other provision of this Act shall supersede, restrict, or
20 limit the application of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (42
21 U.S.C. 1973 et seq.).

22 (2) Nothing in this Act authorizes or requires con-
23 duct that is prohibited by the Voting Rights Act of 1965
24 (42 U.S.C. 1973 et seq.).

1 **SEC. 11. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

2 This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
3 become effective upon the date of enactment.

○