

113TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 2928

To direct the Election Assistance Commission to develop and publish recommendations for best practices that States may use in establishing and operating independent Congressional redistricting commissions.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 1, 2013

Ms. BROWNLEY of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To direct the Election Assistance Commission to develop and publish recommendations for best practices that States may use in establishing and operating independent Congressional redistricting commissions.

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

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Fair and Independent
5 Redistricting (FAIR) Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Constitution requires reapportionment
2 of seats in the House of Representatives after each
3 decennial census.

4 (2) One of the greatest powers that the people
5 have is the right to elect a representative who best
6 represents the interests of the community.

7 (3) States are required to redraw Congressional
8 districts after reapportionment.

9 (4) Independent citizens redistricting commis-
10 sions are intended to develop Congressional redis-
11 tricting plans that reflect the best interests of the
12 people, not the incumbent political parties.

13 (5) The Election Assistance Commission
14 (EAC), which was established by the Help America
15 Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), is an independent, bipar-
16 tisan commission charged with developing guidance
17 and best practices for State voting systems.

18 **SEC. 3. DEVELOPMENT OF BEST PRACTICE RECOMMENDA-**
19 **TIONS FOR STATES ESTABLISHING INDE-**
20 **PENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS.**

21 (a) DEVELOPMENT.—Not later than 18 months after
22 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Election Assist-
23 ance Commission shall publish a report containing the
24 Commission’s best practice recommendations that States

1 may use in establishing and operating independent com-
2 missions to develop Congressional redistricting plans.

3 (b) CONSULTATION.—In developing the recommenda-
4 tions required under this Act, the Election Assistance
5 Commission shall consult with States that have imple-
6 mented, or are considering implementing, independent
7 commissions to develop Congressional redistricting plans,
8 as well as individuals who have served on such commis-
9 sions.

10 (c) DISSEMINATION.—

11 (1) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY ONLINE.—The Com-
12 mission shall ensure that the report published under
13 this section is available to the public online.

14 (2) NOTIFICATION OF OFFICIALS.—Upon pub-
15 lishing the report under this section, the Commission
16 shall notify each of the following that the report is
17 available:

18 (A) Each Member of Congress, including
19 each Delegate or Resident Commissioner to the
20 Congress.

21 (B) The chief executive officer and chief
22 State election official of each State, as well as
23 the head of each house of the legislature of each
24 State. For purposes of this subparagraph, the
25 term “State” includes the District of Columbia,

1 the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam,
2 American Samoa, the United States Virgin Is-
3 lands, and the Commonwealth of the Northern
4 Mariana Islands.

