

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 988

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES YATES (Sponsor), LeVOTA, PRATT, DUSENBERG,
JOHNSON (47), MEINERS AND SAGER (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time January 8, 2004, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

2618L.011

AN ACT

To repeal section 115.607, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to county political party committee representation.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 115.607, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 115.607, to read as follows:

115.607. 1. No person shall be elected or shall serve as a member of a county committee who is not, for one year next before the person's election, both a registered voter of and a resident of the county and the committee district from which the person is elected if such district shall have been so long established, and if not, then of the district or districts from which the same shall have been taken. Except as provided in subsections 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 of this section, the membership of a county committee of each established political party shall consist of a man and a woman elected from each township or ward in the county.

2. In each county of the first classification containing the major portion of a city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, two members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected from each ward in the city. Any township entirely contained in the city shall have no additional representation on the county committee. The election authority for the county shall, not later than six months after the decennial census has been reported to the President of the United States, divide the most populous township outside the city into eight subdistricts of contiguous and compact territory and as nearly equal in population as practicable. **The election authority for the county shall divide the second and third most populous townships outside the city into four subdistricts, each of which shall be of contiguous and**

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law. Matter in boldface type in the above law is proposed language.

17 **compact territory and as nearly equal in population as practicable.** The subdistricts of each
18 **township** shall be numbered from one upward consecutively, which numbers shall, insofar as
19 practicable, be retained upon reapportionment. Two members of the county committee, a man
20 and a woman, shall be elected from each such subdistrict. **Six members of the committee,**
21 **three men and three women, shall be elected from the second and third most populous**
22 **townships outside the city.** Four members of the committee, two men and two women, shall
23 be elected from [each] **the other [township] townships** outside the city.

24 3. In any city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, the major portion of
25 which is located in a county with a charter form of government, for the portion of the city located
26 within such county and notwithstanding section 82.110, RSMo, it shall be the duty of the
27 election authority, not later than six months after the decennial census has been reported to the
28 President of the United States, to divide such cities into not less than twenty-four nor more than
29 twenty-five wards after each decennial census. Wards shall be so divided that the number of
30 inhabitants in any ward shall not exceed any other ward of the city and within the same county,
31 by more than five percent, measured by the number of the inhabitants determined at the
32 preceding decennial census.

33 4. In each county of the first classification containing a portion, but not the major
34 portion, of a city which has over three hundred thousand inhabitants, ten members of the
35 committee, five men and five women, shall be elected from the district of each state
36 representative wholly contained in the county in the following manner: Within six months after
37 each legislative reapportionment, the election authority shall divide each legislative district
38 wholly contained in the county into five committee districts of contiguous territory as compact
39 and as nearly equal in population as may be; two members of the committee, a man and a
40 woman, shall be elected from each committee district. The election authority shall divide the
41 area of the county located within legislative districts not wholly contained in the county into
42 similar committee districts; two members of the committee, a man and a woman, shall be elected
43 from each committee district.

44 5. In each city not situated in a county, two members of the committee, a man and a
45 woman, shall be elected from each ward.

46 6. In all counties with a charter form of government and a population of over nine
47 hundred thousand inhabitants, the county committee persons shall be elected from each
48 township. Within ninety days after August 28, 2002, and within six months after each decennial
49 census has been reported to the President of the United States, the election authority shall divide
50 the county into twenty-eight compact and contiguous townships containing populations as nearly
51 equal in population to each other as is practical.

52 7. If any election authority has failed to adopt a reapportionment plan by the deadline set

53 forth in this section, the county commission, sitting as a reapportionment commission, shall
54 within sixty days after the deadline, adopt a reapportionment plan. Changes of township, ward,
55 or precinct lines shall not affect the terms of office of incumbent party committee members
56 elected from districts as constituted at the time of their election.