

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 37

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES THRELKELD (Sponsor), YATES, LEMBKE, DIXON,
HILGEMANN, BOUGH, ENGLER, FRASER, BEARDEN, AND MORRIS (Co-sponsors).

Pre-filed December 16, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

2787L.011

JOINT RESOLUTION

Submitting to the qualified voters of Missouri an amendment repealing sections 2 and 9 of article III of the Constitution of Missouri, and adopting two new sections in lieu thereof relating to the general assembly.

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring therein:

That at the next general election to be held in the state of Missouri, on Tuesday next
2 following the first Monday in November, 2004, or at a special election to be called by the
3 governor for that purpose, there is hereby submitted to the qualified voters of this state, for
4 adoption or rejection, the following amendment to article III of the Constitution of the state of
5 Missouri:

Section A. Sections 2 and 9, article III, Constitution of Missouri, are repealed and two
2 new sections adopted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 2 and 9, to read as follows:

Section 2. The house of representatives shall consist of one hundred sixty-three members
2 **and, beginning with the ninety-seventh general assembly, one hundred one members,**
3 elected at each general election and apportioned in the following manner: Within sixty days after
4 the population of this state is reported to the President for each decennial census of the United
5 States and, in the event that a reapportionment has been invalidated by a court of competent
6 jurisdiction, within sixty days after notification by the governor that such a ruling has been made,
7 the congressional district committee of each of the two parties casting the highest vote for
8 governor at the last preceding election shall meet and the members of the committee shall

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.

9 nominate, by a majority vote of the members of the committee present, provided that a majority
10 of the elected members is present, two members of their party, residents in that district, as
11 nominees for reapportionment commissioners. Neither party shall select more than one nominee
12 from any one state legislative district. The congressional committees shall each submit to the
13 governor their list of elected nominees. Within thirty days the governor shall appoint a
14 commission consisting of one name from each list to reapportion the state into one hundred and
15 sixty-three representative districts **and, beginning with the ninety-seventh general assembly,**
16 **one hundred one districts,** and to establish the numbers and boundaries of said districts.

17 If any of the congressional committees fails to submit a list within such time the governor
18 shall appoint a member of his own choice from that district and from the political party of the
19 committee failing to make the appointment.

20 Members of the commission shall be disqualified from holding office as members of the
21 general assembly for four years following the date of the filing by the commission of its final
22 statement of apportionment.

23 For the purposes of this article, the term congressional district committee or
24 congressional district refers to the congressional district committee or the congressional district
25 from which a congressman was last elected, or, in the event members of congress from this state
26 have been elected at large, the term congressional district committee refers to those persons who
27 last served as the congressional district committee for those districts from which congressmen
28 were last elected, and the term congressional district refers to those districts from which
29 congressmen were last elected. Any action pursuant to this section by the congressional district
30 committee shall take place only at duly called meetings, shall be recorded in their official
31 minutes and only members present in person shall be permitted to vote.

32 The commissioners so selected shall on the fifteenth day, excluding Sundays and
33 holidays, after all members have been selected, meet in the capitol building and proceed to
34 organize by electing from their number a [chairman] **chair**, vice [chairman] **chair** and secretary
35 and shall adopt an agenda establishing at least three hearing dates on which hearings open to the
36 public shall be held. A copy of the agenda shall be filed with the clerk of the house of
37 representatives within twenty-four hours after its adoption. Executive meetings may be scheduled
38 and held as often as the commission deems advisable.

39 The commission shall reapportion the representatives by dividing the population of the
40 state by the number one hundred sixty-three **and, beginning with the ninety-seventh general**
41 **assembly, the number one hundred one,** and shall establish each district so that the population
42 of that district shall, as nearly as possible, equal that figure.

43 Each district shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as may be.

44 Not later than five months after the appointment of the commission, the commission shall

45 file with the secretary of state a tentative plan of apportionment and map of the proposed districts
46 and during the ensuing fifteen days shall hold such public hearings as may be necessary to hear
47 objections or testimony of interested persons.

48 Not later than six months after the appointment of the commission, the commission shall
49 file with the secretary of state a final statement of the numbers and the boundaries of the districts
50 together with a map of the districts, and no statement shall be valid unless approved by at least
51 seven-tenths of the members.

52 After the statement is filed members of the house of representatives shall be elected
53 according to such districts until a reapportionment is made as herein provided, except that if the
54 statement is not filed within six months of the time fixed for the appointment of the commission,
55 it shall stand discharged and the house of representatives shall be apportioned by a commission
56 of six members appointed from among the judges of the appellate courts of the state of Missouri
57 by the state supreme court, a majority of whom shall sign and file its apportionment plan and
58 map with the secretary of state within ninety days of the date of the discharge of the
59 apportionment commission. Thereafter members of the house of representatives shall be elected
60 according to such districts until a reapportionment is made as herein provided.

61 Each member of the commission shall receive as compensation fifteen dollars a day for
62 each day the commission is in session but not more than one thousand dollars, and, in addition,
63 shall be reimbursed for his actual and necessary expenses incurred while serving as a member
64 of the commission.

65 No reapportionment shall be subject to the referendum.

Section 9. Until the convening of the [Seventy-fourth] **ninety-seventh** general assembly
2 the house of representatives shall consist of one hundred sixty-three members elected from the
3 one hundred sixty-three representative districts, as they existed [January 1, 1965] **during the**
4 **ninety-sixth general assembly. Beginning with the ninety-seventh general assembly, the**
5 **house of representatives shall consist of one hundred one members pursuant to section 2**
6 **of this article.**