

HJR 46 -- ETHICS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment would change ethics provisions. In its main provisions, the amendment:

- (1) Prohibits lobbyist gifts to members of the General Assembly and removes a \$5.00 exemption allowing small gifts;
- (2) Creates an Independent Citizen Redistricting Commission for purposes of redistricting state House and Senate districts. Qualifications for membership on the commission and time limits for redistricting plans are specified in the amendment. The criteria for redistricting will continue to include equal population and contiguity. Communities of interest and political subdivision boundaries including cities and counties are included as criteria for consideration. Compliance with federal law concerning minority districts is also required. The bill also retains the current considerations of partisan fairness and competitiveness for redistricting, but does not require the use of any specific formula;
- (3) Retains a commission of six judges to choose a final map if the independent citizen commission cannot meet its specified deadline; and
- (4) Repeals current redistricting processes involving a nonpartisan state demographer.