#### FIRST REGULAR SESSION

# **HOUSE BILL NO. 335**

## 101ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

#### INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE MOSLEY.

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15 16 DANA RADEMAN MILLER, Chief Clerk

## AN ACT

To amend chapter 162, RSMo, by adding thereto one new section relating to the creation of wards in certain school districts.

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

Section A. Chapter 162, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto one new section, to be known as section 162.387, to read as follows:

- 162.387. 1. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, in any school district that is located within or that adjoins a school district that is located within, in whole or in part, a street light maintenance district with fewer than three thousand inhabitants, and that is located within a county with a charter form of government and with more than nine hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, the governing body of the county sitting as an apportionment commission shall establish seven wards for the purpose of electing directors of such districts.
- 2. The ward boundaries shall be drawn by the commissioners within ninety days after August 28, 2021, and within six months after each decennial census is reported to the President of the United States thereafter. Ward boundaries drawn by the governing body of the county shall not be subject to veto by the chief executive of the county.
- 3. The commissioners shall apportion the wards by dividing the population of the district, determined by the preceding decennial census, by the number of directors and shall establish each ward so that the population of that ward shall, as nearly as possible, equal that figure or be within one percent thereof. Each ward shall be composed of contiguous territory as compact as may be.

HB 335 2

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4. All board members elected or appointed in any such district shall be elected or appointed to represent one of the wards, beginning with the first general municipal election or vacancy occurring after August 28, 2021. Each member shall reside for one year prior 20 to the date of the member's election in the ward from which the member is elected or, in the case of a vacancy, the ward from which the member is appointed, and shall forfeit the 22 member's office if the member removes the member's residence from the ward. Such vacancy may be declared and the office filled by the remaining members of the board as provided by law.

- 5. Elected members of the board in office on August 28, 2021, shall hold office for the length of terms for which the members were elected and until successors are elected and qualified, and any members appointed to fill vacancies in office occurring after August 28, 2021, shall serve until the next general municipal election, at which time a successor shall be elected to serve for the remainder of the term to which the replaced member was elected.
- 6. At the first general municipal election to occur after August 28, 2021, the elections for the seats of any expiring terms or appointed terms, as provided in this section, of at-large board members shall be filled by persons elected from the lowest-numbered wards, as those wards are created and numbered by the governing body of the county sitting as an apportionment commission. The second such general municipal election shall be for the lowest-numbered wards not filled at the prior election, and the third such election shall be for the remaining wards not filled at the prior two elections.
- 7. Except as expressly provided in this section, the law governing school districts and seven-director districts shall continue to apply to any district described in this section.