

19:4-10

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY CHECKLIST

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LAWS OF: 2003 **CHAPTER:** 5
NJSA: 19:4-10 (Permits splitting of election districts)
BILL NO: S1512

SPONSOR(S): Sacco and Bark

DATE INTRODUCED: May 13, 2002

COMMITTEE: **ASSEMBLY:** State Government

SENATE: State Government

AMENDED DURING PASSAGE: No

DATE OF PASSAGE: **ASSEMBLY:** December 12, 2002

SENATE: September 30, 2002

DATE OF APPROVAL: January 27, 2003

FOLLOWING ARE ATTACHED IF AVAILABLE:

[FINAL TEXT OF BILL](#) (Original version of bill enacted)

[SPONSORS STATEMENT:](#) (Begins on page 2 of original bill) [Yes](#)

COMMITTEE STATEMENT: **ASSEMBLY:** [Yes](#)

SENATE: [Yes](#)

FLOOR AMENDMENT STATEMENTS: No

LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ESTIMATE: No

VETO MESSAGE: No

GOVERNOR'S PRESS RELEASE ON SIGNING: No

FOLLOWING WERE PRINTED:

To check for circulating copies, contact New Jersey State Government Publications at the State Library (609) 278-2640 ext. 103 or

<mailto:refdesk@njstatelib.org>

REPORTS: No

HEARINGS: No

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES: No

P.L. 2003, CHAPTER 5, *approved January 27, 2003*

Senate, No. 1512

1 AN ACT concerning election districts and amending R.S.19:4-10.

2

3 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
4 of New Jersey:

5

6 1. R.S.19:4-10 is amended to read as follows:

7 19:4-10. As nearly as practicable, each election district shall be
8 composed of contiguous and compact areas having clearly definable
9 boundaries and shall be contained wholly within only one ward, only
10 one municipality, only one county freeholder district, one State
11 legislative district, [only one United States Congressional district],
12 and only one other district from which any public official is elected,
13 except that for the purpose of establishing Congressional districts
14 pursuant to Article II, Section II of the New Jersey Constitution, an
15 election district may be split between two such districts. The election
16 districts within each municipality shall be numbered consecutively. If
17 any election district is split between two Congressional districts, one
18 of the districts shall also be assigned the letter "a" and the other
19 district shall be assigned the letter "b".

20 (cf: P.L.1976, c.83, s.1)

21

22 2. This act shall take effect on January 1 following enactment.

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STATEMENT

26

27 Current law states that each election district, the smallest electoral
28 unit in the State, must be within only one ward, one municipality, one
29 county freeholder district, one State legislative district, one United
30 States Congressional district, and only one other district from which
31 any public official is elected.

32 The bill provides that for establishing districts for members of the
33 Congress of the United States from New Jersey, an election district
34 may be split between two Congressional districts. If any election
35 district is split as such, one of the districts would be assigned the letter
36 "a" and the other district would be assigned the letter "b", in addition
37 to the number assigned to it by the county board of elections.

38 This change is necessary because United States Supreme Court
39 decisions have held that for purposes of Congressional redistricting,
40 the population deviation between Congressional districts must be as
41 close to zero as possible. Allowing an election district to be split
42 between two Congressional districts will enable members of the New

EXPLANATION - Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

1 Jersey Redistricting Commission to create maps that comply with the
2 Supreme Court's rulings.

3

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7 Permits splitting any election district between two Congressional
8 districts.

SENATE, No. 1512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
210th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2002

Sponsored by:

Senator NICHOLAS J. SACCO
District 32 (Bergen and Hudson)
Senator MARTHA W. BARK
District 8 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Permits splitting any election district between two Congressional districts.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 9/20/2002)

1 AN ACT concerning election districts and amending R.S.19:4-10.

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43 Jersey Redistricting Commission to create maps that comply with the
44 Supreme Court's rulings.

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ASSEMBLY STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: NOVEMBER 25, 2002

The Assembly State Government Committee reports favorably Senate, No. 1512.

This bill provides that for the purpose of establishing districts for members of the Congress of the United States from New Jersey, an election district may be split between two Congressional districts. If any election district is so split, one part of the district would be assigned the letter "a" and the other part of the district would be assigned the letter "b," in addition to the number assigned to it by a county board of elections.

Current law states that each election district (the smallest electoral unit in the State) must be wholly within only one ward, one municipality, one county freeholder district, one State legislative district, one United States Congressional district, and only one other district from which any public official is elected.

SENATE STATE GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

SENATE, No. 1512

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2002

The Senate State Government Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 1512.

The bill provides that for the purpose of establishing districts for members of the United States Congress from New Jersey, an election district may be split between two Congressional districts. If any election district is so split, one of the districts would be assigned the letter "a" and the other district would be assigned the letter "b," in addition to the number assigned to it by the county board of elections. Current law states that each election district (the smallest electoral unit in the State) must be wholly within only one ward, one municipality, one county freeholder district, one State legislative district, one United States Congressional district, and only one other district from which any public official is elected.

This change is necessary because United States Supreme Court decisions have held that for purposes of Congressional redistricting, the population deviation between Congressional districts must be as close to zero as possible. Allowing an election district to be split between two Congressional districts will enable members of the New Jersey Redistricting Commission to create maps that comply with the Supreme Court's rulings.