

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1685

Introduced by Assembly Member Hertzberg

January 16, 1998

An act to amend Sections 21500 and 21601 of the Elections Code, relating to local elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1685, as introduced, Hertzberg. Local elections: districts.

Existing law requires county boards of supervisors and the councils of specified general law cities following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial and council districts so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in population as may be. In establishing the boundaries of the districts, the board or council may give consideration to the topography, geography, and cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory, and community of interests of the districts.

This bill would require the board or council to conform the boundaries, to the extent possible, to the boundaries of existing communities of interest.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that the Legislature finds there is no mandate contained in the bill that will result in costs incurred

by a local agency or school district for a new program or higher level of service which require reimbursement pursuant to these constitutional and statutory provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 21500 of the Elections Code is
2 amended to read:

3 21500. Following each decennial federal census, and
4 using that census as a basis, the board shall adjust the
5 boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the
6 county so that the districts shall be as nearly equal in
7 population as may be and shall comply with the
8 applicable provisions of Section 1973 of Title 42 of the
9 United States Code, as amended. In establishing the
10 boundaries of the districts the board *shall conform the*
11 *boundaries, to the extent possible, to the boundaries of*
12 *existing communities of interest. In addition, the board*
13 *may give consideration to the following factors: (a)*
14 *topography, (b) geography, and (c) cohesiveness,*
15 *contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory,—and*
16 ~~(d) community of interests~~ of the districts.

17 SEC. 2. Section 21601 of the Elections Code is
18 amended to read:

19 21601. Following each decennial federal census, and
20 using that census as a basis, the council shall, by ordinance
21 or resolution, adjust the boundaries of any or all of the
22 council districts of the city so that the districts shall be as
23 nearly equal in population as may be and shall comply
24 with the applicable provisions of Section 1973 of Title 42
25 of the United States Code, as amended. In establishing the
26 boundaries of the districts the council *shall conform the*
27 *boundaries, to the extent possible, to the boundaries of*
28 *existing communities of interest. In addition, the council*
29 *may give consideration to the following factors: (a)*
30 *topography, (b) geography, and (c) cohesiveness,*
31 *contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory,—and*
32 ~~(d) community of interests~~ of the districts.



1 SEC. 3. Pursuant to Section 17579 of the Government
2 Code, the Legislature finds that there is no mandate
3 contained in this act that will result in costs incurred by
4 a local agency or school district for a new program or
5 higher level of service which require reimbursement
6 pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
7 Constitution and Part 7 (commencing with Section
8 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

9 Notwithstanding Section 17580 of the Government
10 Code, unless otherwise specified, the provisions of this act
11 shall become operative on the same date that the act
12 takes effect pursuant to the California Constitution.

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