[DISCUSSION DRAFT]

118TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION H.R.

To require States to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a redistricting plan developed by an independent redistricting commission, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Mr. NICKEL introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on _____

A BILL

- To require States to carry out congressional redistricting in accordance with a redistricting plan developed by an independent redistricting commission, and for other purposes.
 - 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
 - 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
 - 3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; FINDING OF CONSTITUTIONAL
 - 4 AUTHORITY; TABLE OF CONTENTS.
 - 5 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the
- 6 "Fair and Impartial Redistricting for Meaningful and Ac-

1	countable Political Systems Act or the "FAIR MAPS
2	Act".
3	(b) Finding of Constitutional Authority.—
4	Congress finds that it has the authority to establish the
5	terms and conditions States must follow in carrying out
6	congressional redistricting after an apportionment of
7	Members of the House of Representatives because—
8	(1) the authority granted to Congress under ar-
9	ticle I, section 4 of the Constitution of the United
10	States gives Congress the power to enact laws gov-
11	erning the time, place, and manner of elections for
12	Members of the House of Representatives; and
13	(2) the authority granted to Congress under
14	section 5 of the fourteenth amendment to the Con-
15	stitution gives Congress the power to enact laws to
16	enforce section 2 of such amendment, which requires
17	Representatives to be apportioned among the several
18	States according to their number.
19	(c) Table of Contents.—The table of contents of
20	this Act is as follows:
	Sec. 1. Short title; finding of constitutional authority; table of contents.
	TITLE I—REQUIREMENTS FOR CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING
	 Sec. 101. Requiring congressional redistricting to be conducted through plan of independent State commission. Sec. 102. Ban on mid-decade redistricting. Sec. 103. Criteria for redistricting.

TITLE II—INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS

Sec. 201. Independent redistricting commission.

- Sec. 202. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.
- Sec. 203. Public notice and input.
- Sec. 204. Establishment of related entities.
- Sec. 205. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

TITLE III—ROLE OF COURTS IN DEVELOPMENT OF REDISTRICTING PLANS

- Sec. 301. Enactment of plan developed by 3-judge court.
- Sec. 302. Special rule for redistricting conducted under order of Federal court.

TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATIVE AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- Sec. 401. Payments to States for carrying out redistricting.
- Sec. 402. Civil enforcement.
- Sec. 403. State apportionment notice defined.
- Sec. 404. No effect on elections for State and local office.
- Sec. 405. Effective date.

TITLE V—REQUIREMENTS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS

- Subtitle A—Application of Certain Requirements for Redistricting Carried Out Pursuant to 2020 Census
- Sec. 501. Application of certain requirements for redistricting carried out pursuant to 2020 Census.
- Sec. 502. Triggering events.
- Subtitle B—Independent Redistricting Commissions for Redistricting Carried Out Pursuant to 2020 Census
- Sec. 511. Use of independent redistricting commissions for redistricting carried out pursuant to 2020 Census.
- Sec. 512. Establishment of selection pool of individuals eligible to serve as members of commission.
- Sec. 513. Criteria for redistricting plan; public notice and input.
- Sec. 514. Establishment of related entities.
- Sec. 515. Report on diversity of memberships of independent redistricting commissions.

1	TITLE I—REQUIREMENTS FOR
2	CONGRESSIONAL REDIS-
3	TRICTING
4	SEC. 101. REQUIRING CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING TO
5	BE CONDUCTED THROUGH PLAN OF INDE-
6	PENDENT STATE COMMISSION.
7	(a) Use of Plan Required.—Notwithstanding any
8	other provision of law, and except as provided in sub-
9	section (c) and subsection (d), any congressional redis-
10	tricting conducted by a State shall be conducted in accord-
11	ance with—
12	(1) the redistricting plan developed and enacted
13	into law by the independent redistricting commission
14	established in the State, in accordance with title II;
15	or
16	(2) if a plan developed by such commission is
17	not enacted into law, the redistricting plan developed
18	and enacted into law by a 3-judge court, in accord-
19	ance with section 301.
20	(b) Conforming Amendment.—Section 22(c) of
21	the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and
22	subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an ap-
23	portionment of Representatives in Congress", approved
24	June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(c)), is amended by striking

1	"in the manner provided by the law thereof" and insert-
2	ing: "in the manner provided by the FAIR MAPS Act".
3	(c) Special Rule for Existing Commissions.—
4	Subsection (a) does not apply to any State in which, under
5	law in effect continuously on and after the date of the
6	enactment of this Act, congressional redistricting is car-
7	ried out in accordance with a plan developed and approved
8	by an independent redistricting commission which is in
9	compliance with each of the following requirements:
10	(1) Publicly available application proc-
11	ESS.—Membership on the commission is open to citi-
12	zens of the State through a publicly available appli-
13	cation process.
14	(2) Disqualifications for government
15	SERVICE AND POLITICAL APPOINTMENT.—Individ-
16	uals who, for a covered period of time as established
17	by the State, hold or have held public office, individ-
18	uals who are or have been candidates for elected
19	public office, and individuals who serve or have
20	served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of
21	a campaign committee of a candidate for public of-
22	fice are disqualified from serving on the commission.
23	(3) Screening for conflicts.—Individuals
24	who apply to serve on the commission are screened
25	through a process that excludes persons with con-

1	flicts of interest from the pool of potential commis-
2	sioners.
3	(4) Multi-Partisan composition.—Member-
4	ship on the commission represents those who are af-
5	filiated with the two political parties whose can-
6	didates received the most votes in the most recent
7	statewide election for Federal office held in the
8	State, as well as those who are unaffiliated with any
9	party or who are affiliated with political parties
10	other than the two political parties whose candidates
11	received the most votes in the most recent statewide
12	election for Federal office held in the State.
13	(5) Criteria for redistricting.—Members
14	of the commission are required to meet certain cri-
15	teria in the map drawing process, including mini-
16	mizing the division of communities of interest and a
17	ban on drawing maps to favor a political party.
18	(6) Public input.—Public hearings are held
19	and comments from the public are accepted before
20	a final map is approved.
21	(7) Broad-based support for approval of
22	FINAL PLAN.—The approval of the final redistricting
23	plan requires a majority vote of the members of the
24	commission, including the support of at least one
25	member of each of the following:

1	(A) Members who are affiliated with the
2	political party whose candidate received the
3	most votes in the most recent statewide election
4	for Federal office held in the State.
5	(B) Members who are affiliated with the
6	political party whose candidate received the sec-
7	ond most votes in the most recent statewide
8	election for Federal office held in the State.
9	(C) Members who are not affiliated with
10	any political party or who are affiliated with po-
11	litical parties other than the political parties de-
12	scribed in subparagraphs (A) and (B).
13	(d) Treatment of State of Iowa.—Subsection (a)
14	does not apply to the State of Iowa, so long as congres-
15	sional redistricting in such State is carried out in accord-
16	ance with a plan developed by the Iowa Legislative Serv-
17	ices Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Redis-
18	tricting Advisory Commission, under law which was in ef-
19	fect for the most recent congressional redistricting carried
20	out in the State prior to the date of the enactment of this
21	Act and which remains in effect continuously on and after
22	the date of the enactment of this Act.
23	SEC. 102. BAN ON MID-DECADE REDISTRICTING.
24	A State that has been redistricted in accordance with
25	this Act and a State described in section 101(c) or section

8 101(d) may not be redistricted again until after the next 2 apportionment of Representatives under section 22(a) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fifteenth and 3 4 subsequent decennial censuses and to provide for an ap-5 portionment of Representatives in Congress", approved 6 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), unless a court requires the State to conduct such subsequent redistricting to comply 8 with the Constitution of the United States, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), the Con-10 stitution of the State, or the terms or conditions of this 11 Act. SEC. 103. CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING. 13 (a) Criteria.—Under the redistricting plan of a 14 State, there shall be established single-member congres-15 sional districts using the following criteria as set forth in the following order of priority: 16 17 (1) Districts shall comply with the United 18 States Constitution, including the requirement that 19 they equalize total population. 20 (2) Districts shall comply with the Voting 21 Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.), in-22 cluding by creating any districts where two or more 23 politically cohesive groups protected by such Act are 24 able to elect representatives of choice in coalition

with one another, and all applicable Federal laws.

25

1	(3) Districts shall be drawn, to the extent that
2	the totality of the circumstances warrant, to ensure
3	the practical ability of a group protected under the
4	Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et
5	seq.) to participate in the political process and to
6	nominate candidates and to elect representatives of
7	choice is not diluted or diminished, regardless of
8	whether or not such protected group constitutes a
9	majority of a district's citizen voting age population
10	(4) Districts shall respect communities of inter-
11	est, neighborhoods, and political subdivisions to the
12	extent practicable and after compliance with the re-
13	quirements of paragraphs (1) through (3). A com-
14	munity of interest is defined as an area with recog-
15	nized similarities of interests, including but not lim-
16	ited to ethnic, racial, economic, tribal, social, cul-
17	tural, geographic or historic identities. The term
18	communities of interest may, in certain cir-
19	cumstances, include political subdivisions such as
20	counties, municipalities, tribal lands and reserva-
21	tions, or school districts, but shall not include com-
22	mon relationships with political parties or political
23	candidates.
24	(b) No Favoring or Disfavoring of Political
25	Parties.—

1	(1) Prohibition.—The redistricting plan en-
2	acted by a State shall not, when considered on a
3	Statewide basis, be drawn with the intent or the ef-
4	fect of unduly favoring or disfavoring any political
5	party.
6	(2) Determination of Effect.—
7	(A) TOTALITY OF CIRCUMSTANCES.—For
8	purposes of paragraph (1), the determination of
9	whether a redistricting plan has the effect of
10	unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party
11	shall be based on the totality of circumstances,
12	including evidence regarding the durability and
13	severity of a plan's partisan bias.
14	(B) Plans deemed to have effect of
15	UNDULY FAVORING OR DISFAVORING A POLIT-
16	ICAL PARTY.—Without limiting other ways in
17	which a redistricting plan may be determined to
18	have the effect of unduly favoring or disfavoring
19	a political party under the totality of cir-
20	cumstances under subparagraph (A), a redis-
21	tricting plan shall be deemed to have the effect
22	of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political
23	party if—
24	(i) modeling based on relevant histor-
25	ical voting patterns shows that the plan is

1	statistically likely to result in a partisan
2	bias of more than one seat in States with
3	20 or fewer congressional districts or a
4	partisan bias of more than 2 seats in
5	States with more than 20 congressional
6	districts, as determined using quantitative
7	measures of partisan fairness, which may
8	include, but are not limited to, the seats-
9	to-votes curve for an enacted plan, the effi-
10	ciency gap, the declination, partisan asym-
11	metry, and the mean-median difference,
12	and
13	(ii) alternative plans, which may in-
14	clude, but are not limited to, those gen-
15	erated by redistricting algorithms, exist
16	that could have complied with the require-
17	ments of law and not been in violation of
18	paragraph (1).
19	(3) Determination of intent.—For pur-
20	poses of paragraph (A), a rebuttable presumption
21	shall exist that a redistricting plan enacted by the
22	legislature of a State was not enacted with the in-
23	tent of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political
24	party if the plan was enacted with the support of at

1	least a third of the members of the second largest
2	political party in each house of the legislature.
3	(4) No violation based on certain cri-
4	TERIA.—No redistricting plan shall be found to be
5	in violation of paragraph (1) because of partisan
6	bias attributable to the application of the criteria set
7	forth in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3) of subsection (a),
8	unless one or more alternative plans could have com-
9	plied with such paragraphs without having the effect
10	of unduly favoring or disfavoring a political party.
11	(c) Factors Prohibited From Consideration.—
12	In developing the redistricting plan for the State, the inde-
13	pendent redistricting commission may not take into con-
14	sideration any of the following factors, except to the extent
15	necessary to comply with the criteria described in para-
16	graphs (1) through (3) of subsection (a), subsection (b),
17	and to enable the redistricting plan to be measured
18	against the external metrics described in section 203(d):
19	(1) The residence of any Member of the House
20	of Representatives or candidate.
21	(2) The political party affiliation or voting his-
22	tory of the population of a district.
23	(d) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to any au-
24	thority, whether appointed, elected, judicial, or otherwise,

1	that designs or enacts a congressional redistricting plan
2	of a State.
3	(e) Severability of Criteria.—If any of the cri-
4	teria set forth in this section, or the application of such
5	criteria to any person or circumstance, is held to be uncon-
6	stitutional, the remaining criteria set forth in this section,
7	and the application of such criteria to any person or cir-
8	cumstance, shall not be affected by the holding.
9	TITLE II—INDEPENDENT
10	REDISTRICTING COMMISSIONS
11	SEC. 201. INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.
12	(a) Appointment of Members.—
13	(1) In general.—The nonpartisan agency es-
14	tablished or designated by a State under section
15	204(a) shall establish an independent redistricting
16	commission for the State, which shall consist of 15
17	members appointed by the agency as follows:
18	(A) Not later than October 1 of a year
19	ending in the numeral zero, the agency shall, at
20	a public meeting held not earlier than 15 days
21	after notice of the meeting has been given to
22	the public, first appoint 6 members as follows:
23	(i) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
24	bers on a random basis from the majority

1	category of the approved selection pool (as
2	described in section 202(b)(1)(A)).
3	(ii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
4	bers on a random basis from the minority
5	category of the approved selection pool (as
6	described in section 202(b)(1)(B)).
7	(iii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
8	bers on a random basis from the inde-
9	pendent category of the approved selection
10	pool (as described in section 202(b)(1)(C)).
11	(B) Not later than November 15 of a year
12	ending in the numeral zero, the members ap-
13	pointed by the agency under subparagraph (A)
14	shall, at a public meeting held not earlier than
15	15 days after notice of the meeting has been
16	given to the public, then appoint 9 members as
17	follows:
18	(i) The members shall appoint 3 mem-
19	bers from the majority category of the ap-
20	proved selection pool (as described in sec-
21	tion $202(b)(1)(A)$).
22	(ii) The members shall appoint 3
23	members from the minority category of the
24	approved selection pool (as described in
25	section $202(b)(1)(B)$).

1	(iii) The members shall appoint 3
2	members from the independent category of
3	the approved selection pool (as described in
4	section $202(b)(1)(C)$.
5	(2) Rules for appointment of members
6	APPOINTED BY FIRST MEMBERS.—
7	(A) Affirmative vote of at least 4
8	MEMBERS.—The appointment of any of the 9
9	members of the independent redistricting com-
10	mission who are appointed by the first members
11	of the commission pursuant to subparagraph
12	(B) of paragraph (1), as well as the designation
13	of alternates for such members pursuant to
14	subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) and the ap-
15	pointment of alternates to fill vacancies pursu-
16	ant to subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4), shall
17	require the affirmative vote of at least 4 of the
18	members appointed by the nonpartisan agency
19	under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), in-
20	cluding at least one member from each of the
21	categories referred to in such subparagraph.
22	(B) Ensuring diversity.—In appointing
23	the 9 members pursuant to subparagraph (B)
24	of paragraph (1), as well as in designating al-
25	ternates pursuant to subparagraph (B) of para-

1	graph (3) and in appointing alternates to fill
2	vacancies pursuant to subparagraph (B) of
3	paragraph (4), the first members of the inde-
4	pendent redistricting commission shall ensure
5	that the membership is representative of the de-
6	mographic groups (including racial, ethnic, eco-
7	nomic, and gender) and geographic regions of
8	the State, and provides racial, ethnic, and lan-
9	guage minorities protected under the Voting
10	Rights Act of 1965 with a meaningful oppor-
11	tunity to participate in the development of the
12	State's redistricting plan.
13	(3) Designation of alternates to serve
14	IN CASE OF VACANCIES.—
15	(A) Members appointed by agency.—
16	At the time the agency appoints the members
17	of the independent redistricting commission
18	under subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) from
19	each of the categories referred to in such sub-
20	paragraph, the agency shall, on a random basis,
21	designate 2 other individuals from such cat-
22	egory to serve as alternate members who may
23	be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission
24	in accordance with paragraph (4).

1	(B) Members appointed by first mem-
2	BERS.—At the time the members appointed by
3	the agency appoint the other members of the
4	independent redistricting commission under
5	subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) from each
6	of the categories referred to in such subpara-
7	graph, the members shall, in accordance with
8	the special rules described in paragraph (2),
9	designate 2 other individuals from such cat-
10	egory to serve as alternate members who may
11	be appointed to fill vacancies in the commission
12	in accordance with paragraph (4).
13	(4) Appointment of alternates to serve
14	IN CASE OF VACANCIES.—
15	(A) Members appointed by agency.—If
16	a vacancy occurs in the commission with respect
17	to a member who was appointed by the non-
18	partisan agency under subparagraph (A) of
19	paragraph (1) from one of the categories re-
20	ferred to in such subparagraph, the agency
21	shall fill the vacancy by appointing, on a ran-
22	dom basis, one of the 2 alternates from such
23	category who was designated under subpara-
24	graph (A) of paragraph (3). At the time the
25	agency appoints an alternate to fill a vacancy

1	under the previous sentence, the agency shall
2	designate, on a random basis, another indi-
3	vidual from the same category to serve as an al-
4	ternate member, in accordance with subpara-
5	graph (A) of paragraph (3).
6	(B) Members appointed by first mem-
7	BERS.—If a vacancy occurs in the commission
8	with respect to a member who was appointed by
9	the first members of the commission under sub-
10	paragraph (B) of paragraph (1) from one of the
11	categories referred to in such subparagraph, the
12	first members shall, in accordance with the spe-
13	cial rules described in paragraph (2), fill the va-
14	cancy by appointing one of the 2 alternates
15	from such category who was designated under
16	subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3). At the time
17	the first members appoint an alternate to fill a
18	vacancy under the previous sentence, the first
19	members shall, in accordance with the special
20	rules described in paragraph (2), designate an-
21	other individual from the same category to
22	serve as an alternate member, in accordance
23	with subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3).
24	(5) Removal.—A member of the independent
25	redistricting commission may be removed by a ma-

1	jority vote of the remaining members of the commis-
2	sion if it is shown by a preponderance of the evi-
3	dence that the member is not eligible to serve on the
4	commission under section 202(a).
5	(b) Procedures for Conducting Commission
6	Business.—
7	(1) Chair.—Members of an independent redis-
8	tricting commission established under this section
9	shall select by majority vote one member who was
10	appointed from the independent category of the ap-
11	proved selection pool described in section
12	202(b)(1)(C) to serve as chair of the commission.
13	The commission may not take any action to develop
14	a redistricting plan for the State under section 203
15	until the appointment of the commission's chair.
16	(2) Requiring majority approval for ac-
17	TIONS.—The independent redistricting commission
18	of a State may not publish and disseminate any
19	draft or final redistricting plan, or take any other
20	action, without the approval of at least—
21	(A) a majority of the whole membership of
22	the commission; and
23	(B) at least one member of the commission
24	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-

1	proved selection pool described in section
2	202(b)(1).
3	(3) Quorum.—A majority of the members of
4	the commission shall constitute a quorum.
5	(c) Staff; Contractors.—
6	(1) Staff.—Under a public application process
7	in which all application materials are available for
8	public inspection, the independent redistricting com-
9	mission of a State shall appoint and set the pay of
10	technical experts, legal counsel, consultants, and
11	such other staff as it considers appropriate, subject
12	to State law.
13	(2) Contractors.—The independent redis-
14	tricting commission of a State may enter into such
15	contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate,
16	subject to State law, except that any such contract
17	shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a ma-
18	jority of the members of the commission, including
19	at least one member appointed from each of the cat-
20	egories of the approved selection pool described in
21	section $202(b)(1)$.
22	(3) Reports on expenditures for polit-
23	ICAL ACTIVITY.—
24	(A) REPORT BY APPLICANTS.—Each indi-
25	vidual who applies for a position as an employee

1	of the independent redistricting commission and
2	each vendor who applies for a contract with the
3	commission shall, at the time of applying, file
4	with the commission a report summarizing—
5	(i) any expenditure for political activ-
6	ity made by such individual or vendor dur-
7	ing the 10 most recent calendar years; and
8	(ii) any income received by such indi-
9	vidual or vendor during the 10 most recent
10	calendar years which is attributable to an
11	expenditure for political activity.
12	(B) Annual reports by employees
13	AND VENDORS.—Each person who is an em-
14	ployee or vendor of the independent redis-
15	tricting commission shall, not later than 1 year
16	after the person is appointed as an employee or
17	enters into a contract as a vendor (as the case
18	may be) and annually thereafter for each year
19	during which the person serves as an employee
20	or a vendor, file with the commission a report
21	summarizing the expenditures and income de-
22	scribed in subparagraph (A) during the 10 most
23	recent calendar years.
24	(C) Expenditure for political activ-
25	ITY DEFINED.—In this paragraph, the term

1	"expenditure for political activity" means a dis-
2	bursement for any of the following:
3	(i) An independent expenditure, as de-
4	fined in section 301(17) of the Federal
5	Election Campaign Act of 1971 (52 U.S.C.
6	30101(17)).
7	(ii) An electioneering communication,
8	as defined in section 304(f)(3) of such Act
9	(52 U.S.C. 30104(f)(3)) or any other pub-
10	lic communication, as defined in section
11	301(22) of such Act (52 U.S.C.
12	30101(22)) that would be an electioneering
13	communication if it were a broadcast,
14	cable, or satellite communication.
15	(iii) Any dues or other payments to
16	trade associations or organizations de-
17	scribed in section 501(c) of the Internal
18	Revenue Code of 1986 and exempt from
19	tax under section 501(a) of such Code that
20	are, or could reasonably be anticipated to
21	be, used or transferred to another associa-
22	tion or organization for a use described in
23	paragraph (1), (2), or (4) of section 501(c)
24	of such Code.

(4) Goal of impartiality.—The commission
shall take such steps as it considers appropriate to
ensure that any staff appointed under this sub-
section, and any vendor with whom the commission
enters into a contract under this subsection, will
work in an impartial manner, and may require any
person who applies for an appointment to a staff po-
sition or for a vendor's contract with the commission
to provide information on the person's history of po-
litical activity beyond the information on the per-
son's expenditures for political activity provided in
the reports required under paragraph (3) (including
donations to candidates, political committees, and
political parties) as a condition of the appointment
or the contract.

(5) DISQUALIFICATION; WAIVER.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The independent redistricting commission may not appoint an individual as an employee, and may not enter into a contract with a vendor, if the individual or vendor meets any of the criteria for the disqualification of an individual from serving as a member of the commission which are set forth in section 202(a)(2).

1	(B) Waiver.—The commission may by
2	unanimous vote of its members waive the appli-
3	cation of subparagraph (A) to an individual or
4	a vendor after receiving and reviewing the re-
5	port filed by the individual or vendor under
6	paragraph (3).
7	(d) Termination.—
8	(1) In General.—The independent redis-
9	tricting commission of a State shall terminate on the
10	earlier of—
11	(A) June 14 of the next year ending in the
12	numeral zero; or
13	(B) the day on which the nonpartisan
14	agency established or designated by a State
15	under section 204(a) has, in accordance with
16	section 202(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to
17	the Select Committee on Redistricting for the
18	State established under section 204(b).
19	(2) Preservation of Records.—The State
20	shall ensure that the records of the independent re-
21	districting commission are retained in the appro-
22	priate State archive in such manner as may be nec-
23	essary to enable the State to respond to any civil ac-
24	tion brought with respect to congressional redis-
25	tricting in the State.

1	SEC. 202. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDI-
2	VIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS
3	OF COMMISSION.
4	(a) Criteria for Eligibility.—
5	(1) In general.—An individual is eligible to
6	serve as a member of an independent redistricting
7	commission if the individual meets each of the fol-
8	lowing criteria:
9	(A) As of the date of appointment, the in-
10	dividual is registered to vote in elections for
11	Federal office held in the State.
12	(B) During the 3-year period ending on
13	the date of the individual's appointment, the in-
14	dividual has been continuously registered to
15	vote with the same political party, or has not
16	been registered to vote with any political party.
17	(C) The individual submits to the non-
18	partisan agency established or designated by a
19	State under section 203, at such time and in
20	such form as the agency may require, an appli-
21	cation for inclusion in the selection pool under
22	this section, and includes with the application a
23	written statement, with an attestation under
24	penalty of perjury, containing the following in-
25	formation and assurances:

1	(i) The full current name and any
2	former names of, and the contact informa-
3	tion for, the individual, including an elec-
4	tronic mail address, the address of the in-
5	dividual's residence, mailing address, and
6	telephone numbers.
7	(ii) The individual's race, ethnicity,
8	gender, age, date of birth, and household
9	income for the most recent taxable year.
10	(iii) The political party with which the
11	individual is affiliated, if any.
12	(iv) The reason or reasons the indi-
13	vidual desires to serve on the independent
14	redistricting commission, the individual's
15	qualifications, and information relevant to
16	the ability of the individual to be fair and
17	impartial, including, but not limited to—
18	(I) any involvement with, or fi-
19	nancial support of, professional, so-
20	cial, political, religious, or community
21	organizations or causes;
22	(II) the individual's employment
23	and educational history.
24	(v) An assurance that the individual
25	shall commit to carrying out the individ-

1	ual's duties under this Act in an honest,
2	independent, and impartial fashion, and to
3	upholding public confidence in the integrity
4	of the redistricting process.
5	(vi) An assurance that, during the
6	covered periods described in paragraph (3),
7	the individual has not taken and will not
8	take any action which would disqualify the
9	individual from serving as a member of the
10	commission under paragraph (2).
11	(2) Disqualifications.—An individual is not
12	eligible to serve as a member of the commission if
13	any of the following applies during any of the cov-
14	ered periods described in paragraph (3):
15	(A) The individual or (in the case of the
16	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
17	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
18	member of the individual holds public office or
19	is a candidate for election for public office.
20	(B) The individual or (in the case of the
21	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
22	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
23	member of the individual serves as an officer of
24	a political party or as an officer, employee, or
25	paid consultant of a campaign committee of a

1	candidate for public office or of any political ac-
2	tion committee (as determined in accordance
3	with the law of the State).
4	(C) The individual or (in the case of the
5	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
6	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
7	member of the individual holds a position as a
8	registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclo-
9	sure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or an
10	equivalent State or local law.
11	(D) The individual or (in the case of the
12	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
13	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
14	member of the individual is an employee of an
15	elected public official, a contractor with the gov-
16	ernment of the State, or a donor to the cam-
17	paign of any candidate for public office or to
18	any political action committee (other than a
19	donor who, during any of such covered periods,
20	gives an aggregate amount of \$1,000 or less to
21	the campaigns of all candidates for all public
22	offices and to all political action committees).
23	(E) The individual paid a civil money pen-
24	alty or criminal fine, or was sentenced to a
25	term of imprisonment, for violating any provi-

1	sion of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
2	1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.).
3	(F) The individual or (in the case of the
4	covered periods described in subparagraphs (A)
5	and (B) of paragraph (3)) an immediate family
6	member of the individual is an agent of a for-
7	eign principal under the Foreign Agents Reg-
8	istration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C.
9	611 et seq.).
10	(3) Covered Periods Described.—In this
11	subsection, the term "covered period" means, with
12	respect to the appointment of an individual to the
13	commission, any of the following:
14	(A) The 10-year period ending on the date
15	of the individual's appointment.
16	(B) The period beginning on the date of
17	the individual's appointment and ending on Au-
18	gust 14 of the next year ending in the numeral
19	one.
20	(C) The 10-year period beginning on the
21	day after the last day of the period described in
22	subparagraph (B).
23	(4) Immediate family member defined.—In
24	this subsection, the term "immediate family mem-
25	ber" means, with respect to an individual, a father.

1	stepfather, mother, stepmother, son, stepson, daugh-
2	ter, stepdaughter, brother, stepbrother, sister, step-
3	sister, husband, wife, father-in-law, or mother-in-
4	law.
5	(b) Development and Submission of Selection
6	Pool.—
7	(1) In general.—Not later than June 15 of
8	each year ending in the numeral zero, the non-
9	partisan agency established or designated by a State
10	under section 204(a) shall develop and submit to the
11	Select Committee on Redistricting for the State es-
12	tablished under section 204(b) a selection pool of 36
13	individuals who are eligible to serve as members of
14	the independent redistricting commission of the
15	State under this Act, consisting of individuals in the
16	following categories:
17	(A) A majority category, consisting of 12
18	individuals who are affiliated with the political
19	party whose candidate received the most votes
20	in the most recent statewide election for Fed-
21	eral office held in the State.
22	(B) A minority category, consisting of 12
23	individuals who are affiliated with the political
24	party whose candidate received the second most

1	votes in the most recent statewide election for
2	Federal office held in the State.
3	(C) An independent category, consisting of
4	12 individuals who are not affiliated with either
5	of the political parties described in subpara-
6	graph (A) or subparagraph (B).
7	(2) Factors taken into account in Devel-
8	OPING POOL.—In selecting individuals for the selec-
9	tion pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan
10	agency shall—
11	(A) ensure that the pool is representative
12	of the demographic groups (including racial,
13	ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic
14	regions of the State, and includes applicants
15	who would allow racial, ethnic, and language
16	minorities protected under the Voting Rights
17	Act of 1965 a meaningful opportunity to par-
18	ticipate in the development of the State's redis-
19	tricting plan; and
20	(B) take into consideration the analytical
21	skills of the individuals selected in relevant
22	fields (including mapping, data management,
23	law, community outreach, demography, and the
24	geography of the State) and their ability to
25	work on an impartial basis.

1	(3) Interviews of applicants.—To assist
2	the nonpartisan agency in developing the selection
3	pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan agency
4	shall conduct interviews of applicants under oath. If
5	an individual is included in a selection pool devel-
6	oped under this section, all of the interviews of the
7	individual shall be transcribed and the transcriptions
8	made available on the nonpartisan agency's website
9	contemporaneously with release of the report under
10	paragraph (6).
11	(4) Determination of Political Party Af-
12	FILIATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN SELECTION POOL.—
13	For purposes of this section, an individual shall be
14	considered to be affiliated with a political party only
15	if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the
16	greatest extent possible) the information the indi-
17	vidual provides in the application submitted under
18	subsection $(a)(1)(D)$, including by considering addi-
19	tional information provided by other persons with
20	knowledge of the individual's history of political ac-
21	tivity.
22	(5) Encouraging residents to apply for
23	INCLUSION IN POOL.—The nonpartisan agency shall
24	take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that
25	residents of the State across various geographic re-

- gions and demographic groups are aware of the opportunity to serve on the independent redistricting
 commission, including publicizing the role of the
 panel and using newspapers, broadcast media, and
 online sources, including ethnic media, to encourage
 individuals to apply for inclusion in the selection
 pool developed under this subsection.
 - (6) Report on Establishment of selection pool.—At the time the nonpartisan agency submits the selection pool to the Select Committee on Redistricting under paragraph (1), it shall publish and post on the agency's public website a report describing the process by which the pool was developed, and shall include in the report a description of how the individuals in the pool meet the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and of how the pool reflects the factors the agency is required to take into consideration under paragraph (2).
 - (7) Public comment on selection pool.—
 During the 14-day period which begins on the date
 the nonpartisan agency publishes the report under
 paragraph (6), the agency shall accept comments
 from the public on the individuals included in the selection pool. The agency shall post all such comments contemporaneously on the nonpartisan agen-

1	cy's website and shall transmit them to the Select
2	Committee on Redistricting immediately upon the
3	expiration of such period.
4	(8) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—
5	(A) In general.—Not earlier than 15
6	days and not later than 21 days after receiving
7	the selection pool from the nonpartisan agency
8	under paragraph (1), the Select Committee on
9	Redistricting shall, by majority vote—
10	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
11	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
12	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
13	tion pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1);
14	or
15	(ii) reject the pool, in which case the
16	nonpartisan agency shall develop and sub-
17	mit a replacement selection pool in accord-
18	ance with subsection (c).
19	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
20	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
21	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
22	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
23	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
24	for purposes of such subparagraph.

1	(c) Development of Replacement Selection
2	Pool.—
3	(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Select Committee on
4	Redistricting rejects the selection pool submitted by
5	the nonpartisan agency under subsection (b), not
6	later than 14 days after the rejection, the non-
7	partisan agency shall develop and submit to the Se-
8	lect Committee a replacement selection pool, under
9	the same terms and conditions that applied to the
10	development and submission of the selection pool
11	under paragraphs (1) through (7) of subsection (b).
12	The replacement pool submitted under this para-
13	graph may include individuals who were included in
14	the rejected selection pool submitted under sub-
15	section (b), so long as at least one of the individuals
16	in the replacement pool was not included in such re-
17	jected pool.
18	(2) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—
19	(A) In general.—Not later than 21 days
20	after receiving the replacement selection pool
21	from the nonpartisan agency under paragraph
22	(1), the Select Committee on Redistricting
23	shall, by majority vote—
24	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
25	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the

1	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
2	tion pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1);
3	or
4	(ii) reject the pool, in which case the
5	nonpartisan agency shall develop and sub-
6	mit a second replacement selection pool in
7	accordance with subsection (d).
8	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
9	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
10	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
11	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
12	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
13	for purposes of such subparagraph.
14	(d) Development of Second Replacement Se-
15	LECTION POOL.—
16	(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Select Committee on
17	Redistricting rejects the replacement selection pool
18	submitted by the nonpartisan agency under sub-
19	section (c), not later than 14 days after the rejec-
20	tion, the nonpartisan agency shall develop and sub-
21	mit to the Select Committee a second replacement
22	selection pool, under the same terms and conditions
23	that applied to the development and submission of
24	the selection pool under paragraphs (1) through (7)
25	of subsection (b). The second replacement selection

1	pool submitted under this paragraph may include in-
2	dividuals who were included in the rejected selection
3	pool submitted under subsection (b) or the rejected
4	replacement selection pool submitted under sub-
5	section (c), so long as at least one of the individuals
6	in the replacement pool was not included in either
7	such rejected pool.
8	(2) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—
9	(A) In general.—Not earlier than 15
10	days and not later than 14 days after receiving
11	the second replacement selection pool from the
12	nonpartisan agency under paragraph (1), the
13	Select Committee on Redistricting shall, by ma-
14	jority vote—
15	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
16	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
17	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
18	tion pool for purposes of section 201(a)(1);
19	or
20	(ii) reject the pool.
21	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
22	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
23	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
24	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-

1	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
2	for purposes of such subparagraph.
3	(C) EFFECT OF REJECTION.—If the Select
4	Committee on Redistricting rejects the second
5	replacement pool from the nonpartisan agency
6	under paragraph (1), the redistricting plan for
7	the State shall be developed and enacted in ac-
8	cordance with title III.
9	SEC. 203. PUBLIC NOTICE AND INPUT.
10	(a) Public Notice and Input.—
11	(1) Use of open and transparent proc-
12	ESS.—The independent redistricting commission of a
13	State shall hold each of its meetings in public, shall
14	solicit and take into consideration comments from
15	the public, including proposed maps, throughout the
16	process of developing the redistricting plan for the
17	State, and shall carry out its duties in an open and
18	transparent manner which provides for the widest
19	public dissemination reasonably possible of its pro-
20	posed and final redistricting plans.
21	(2) Website.—
22	(A) Features.—The commission shall
23	maintain a public Internet site which is not af-
24	filiated with or maintained by the office of any

1	elected official and which includes the following
2	features:
3	(i) General information on the com-
4	mission, its role in the redistricting proc-
5	ess, and its members, including contact in-
6	formation.
7	(ii) An updated schedule of commis-
8	sion hearings and activities, including
9	deadlines for the submission of comments.
10	(iii) All draft redistricting plans devel-
11	oped by the commission under subsection
12	(b) and the final redistricting plan devel-
13	oped under subsection (c), including the
14	accompanying written evaluation under
15	subsection (d).
16	(iv) All comments received from the
17	public on the commission's activities, in-
18	cluding any proposed maps submitted
19	under paragraph (1).
20	(v) Live streaming of commission
21	hearings and an archive of previous meet-
22	ings, including any documents considered
23	at any such meeting, which the commission
24	shall post not later than 24 hours after the
25	conclusion of the meeting.

1	(vi) Access in an easily useable format
2	to the demographic and other data used by
3	the commission to develop and analyze the
4	proposed redistricting plans, together with
5	access to any software used to draw maps
6	of proposed districts and to any reports
7	analyzing and evaluating any such maps.
8	(vii) A method by which members of
9	the public may submit comments and pro-
10	posed maps directly to the commission.
11	(viii) All records of the commission,
12	including all communications to or from
13	members, employees, and contractors re-
14	garding the work of the commission.
15	(ix) A list of all contractors receiving
16	payment from the commission, together
17	with the annual disclosures submitted by
18	the contractors under section $201(c)(3)$.
19	(x) A list of the names of all individ-
20	uals who submitted applications to serve
21	on the commission, together with the appli-
22	cations submitted by individuals included
23	in any selection pool, except that the com-
24	mission may redact from such applications

1	any financial or other personally sensitive
2	information.
3	(B) Searchable format.—The commis-
4	sion shall ensure that all information posted
5	and maintained on the site under this para-
6	graph, including information and proposed
7	maps submitted by the public, shall be main-
8	tained in an easily searchable format.
9	(C) Deadline.—The commission shall en-
10	sure that the public internet site under this
11	paragraph is operational (in at least a prelimi-
12	nary format) not later than January 1 of the
13	year ending in the numeral one.
14	(3) Public comment period.—The commis-
15	sion shall solicit, accept, and consider comments
16	from the public with respect to its duties, activities,
17	and procedures at any time during the period—
18	(A) which begins on January 1 of the year
19	ending in the numeral one; and
20	(B) which ends 7 days before the date of
21	the meeting at which the commission shall vote
22	on approving the final redistricting plan for en-
23	actment into law under subsection $(c)(2)$.
24	(4) Meetings and hearings in various geo-
25	GRAPHIC LOCATIONS.—To the greatest extent prac-

1	ticable, the commission shall hold its meetings and
2	hearings in various geographic regions and locations
3	throughout the State.
4	(5) Multiple language requirements for
5	ALL NOTICES.—The commission shall make each no-
6	tice which is required to be posted and published
7	under this section available in any language in which
8	the State (or any jurisdiction in the State) is re-
9	quired to provide election materials under section
10	203 of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.
11	(b) Development and Publication of Prelimi-
12	NARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.—
13	(1) In general.—Prior to developing and pub-
14	lishing a final redistricting plan under subsection
15	(c), the independent redistricting commission of a
16	State shall develop and publish a preliminary redis-
17	tricting plan.
18	(2) Minimum public hearings and oppor-
19	TUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT.—
20	(A) 3 Hearings required.—Prior to de-
21	veloping a preliminary redistricting plan under
22	this subsection, the commission shall hold not
23	fewer than 3 public hearings at which members
24	of the public may provide input and comments
25	regarding the potential contents of redistricting

1	plans for the State and the process by which
2	the commission will develop the preliminary
3	plan under this subsection.
4	(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
5	TO HEARINGS.—Not fewer than 14 days prior
6	to the date of each hearing held under this
7	paragraph, the commission shall post notices of
8	the hearing in on the website maintained under
9	subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the pub-
10	lication of such notices in newspapers of general
11	circulation throughout the State. Each such no-
12	tice shall specify the date, time, and location of
13	the hearing.
14	(C) Submission of plans and maps by
15	MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—Any member of
16	the public may submit maps or portions of
17	maps for consideration by the commission. As
18	provided under subsection (a)(2)(A), any such
19	map shall be made publicly available on the
20	commission's website and open to comment.
21	(3) Publication of Preliminary Plan.—
22	(A) In general.—The commission shall
23	post the preliminary redistricting plan devel-
24	oped under this subsection, together with a re-
25	port that includes the commission's responses

1	to any public comments received under sub-
2	section (a)(3), on the website maintained under
3	subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the pub-
4	lication of each such plan in newspapers of gen-
5	eral circulation throughout the State.
6	(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
7	TO PUBLICATION.—Not fewer than 14 days
8	prior to the date on which the commission posts
9	and publishes the preliminary plan under this
10	paragraph, the commission shall notify the pub-
11	lic through the website maintained under sub-
12	section (a)(2), as well as through publication of
13	notice in newspapers of general circulation
14	throughout the State, of the pending publica-
15	tion of the plan.
16	(4) MINIMUM POST-PUBLICATION PERIOD FOR
17	PUBLIC COMMENT.—The commission shall accept
18	and consider comments from the public (including
19	through the website maintained under subsection
20	(a)(2)) with respect to the preliminary redistricting
21	plan published under paragraph (3), including pro-
22	posed revisions to maps, for not fewer than 30 days
23	after the date on which the plan is published.
24	(5) Post-publication hearings.—

1	(A) 3 Hearings required.—After post-
2	ing and publishing the preliminary redistricting
3	plan under paragraph (3), the commission shall
4	hold not fewer than 3 public hearings in dif-
5	ferent geographic areas of the State at which
6	members of the public may provide input and
7	comments regarding the preliminary plan.
8	(B) MINIMUM PERIOD FOR NOTICE PRIOR
9	TO HEARINGS.—Not fewer than 14 days prior
10	to the date of each hearing held under this
11	paragraph, the commission shall post notices of
12	the hearing in on the website maintained under
13	subsection (a)(2), and shall provide for the pub-
14	lication of such notices in newspapers of general
15	circulation throughout the State. Each such no-
16	tice shall specify the date, time, and location of
17	the hearing.
18	(6) PERMITTING MULTIPLE PRELIMINARY
19	PLANS.—At the option of the commission, after de-
20	veloping and publishing the preliminary redistricting
21	plan under this subsection, the commission may de-
22	velop and publish subsequent preliminary redis-
23	tricting plans, so long as the process for the develop-
24	ment and publication of each such subsequent plan

meets the requirements set forth in this subsection

25

I	for the development and publication of the first pre-
2	liminary redistricting plan.
3	(c) Process for Enactment of Final Redis-
4	TRICTING PLAN.—
5	(1) In general.—After taking into consider-
6	ation comments from the public on any preliminary
7	redistricting plan developed and published under
8	subsection (b), the independent redistricting commis-
9	sion of a State shall develop and publish a final re-
10	districting plan for the State.
11	(2) MEETING; FINAL VOTE.—Not later than the
12	deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission
13	shall hold a public hearing at which the members of
14	the commission shall vote on approving the final
15	plan for enactment into law.
16	(3) Publication of Plan and accompanying
17	MATERIALS.—Not fewer than 14 days before the
18	date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the com-
19	mission shall provide the following information to
20	the public through the website maintained under
21	subsection (a)(2), as well as through newspapers of
22	general circulation throughout the State:
23	(A) The final redistricting plan, including
24	all relevant maps.

1	(B) A report by the commission to accom-
2	pany the plan which provides the background
3	for the plan and the commission's reasons for
4	selecting the plan as the final redistricting plan,
5	including responses to the public comments re-
6	ceived on any preliminary redistricting plan de-
7	veloped and published under subsection (b).
8	(C) Any dissenting or additional views with
9	respect to the plan of individual members of the
10	commission.
11	(4) Enactment.—Subject to paragraph (5),
12	the final redistricting plan developed and published
13	under this subsection shall be deemed to be enacted
14	into law upon the expiration of the 45-day period
15	which begins on the date on which—
16	(A) such final plan is approved by a major-
17	ity of the whole membership of the commission;
18	and
19	(B) at least one member of the commission
20	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-
21	proved selection pool described in section
22	202(b)(1) approves such final plan.
23	(5) Review by department of justice.—
24	(A) Requiring submission of Plan for
25	REVIEW.—The final redistricting plan shall not

1	be deemed to be enacted into law unless the
2	State submits the plan to the Department of
3	Justice for an administrative review to deter-
4	mine if the plan is in compliance with the cri-
5	teria described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of
6	section 203(a)(1).
7	(B) TERMINATION OF REVIEW.—The De-
8	partment of Justice shall terminate any admin-
9	istrative review under subparagraph (A) if, dur-
10	ing the 45-day period which begins on the date
11	the plan is enacted into law, an action is filed
12	in a United States district court alleging that
13	the plan is not in compliance with the criteria
14	described in subparagraphs (B) and (C) of sec-
15	tion $203(a)(1)$.
16	(d) Written Evaluation of Plan Against Ex-
17	TERNAL METRICS.—The independent redistricting com-
18	mission shall include with each redistricting plan devel-
19	oped and published under this section a written evaluation
20	that measures each such plan against external metrics
21	which cover the criteria set forth in section 103(a), includ-
22	ing the impact of the plan on the ability of communities
23	of color to elect candidates of choice, measures of partisan
24	fairness using multiple accepted methodologies, and the

1	degree to which the plan preserves or divides communities
2	of interest.
3	(e) Timing.—The independent redistricting commis-
4	sion of a State may begin its work on the redistricting
5	plan of the State upon receipt of relevant population infor-
6	mation from the Bureau of the Census, and shall approve
7	a final redistricting plan for the State in each year ending
8	in the numeral one not later than 8 months after the date
9	on which the State receives the State apportionment notice
10	or October 1, whichever occurs later.
11	SEC. 204. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES.
12	(a) Establishment or Designation of Non-
13	PARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—
14	(1) In General.—Each State shall establish a
15	nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of the
16	State government to appoint the members of the
17	independent redistricting commission for the State
18	in accordance with section 201.
19	(2) Nonpartisanship described.—For pur-
20	poses of this subsection, an agency shall be consid-
21	ered to be nonpartisan if under law the agency—
22	(A) is required to provide services on a
23	nonpartisan basis;
24	(B) is required to maintain impartiality;
25	and

1	(C) is prohibited from advocating for the
2	adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.
3	(3) Training of members appointed to
4	commission.—Not later than January 15 of a year
5	ending in the numeral one, the nonpartisan agency
6	established or designated under this subsection shall
7	provide the members of the independent redistricting
8	commission with initial training on their obligations
9	as members of the commission, including obligations
10	under the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and other ap-
11	plicable laws.
12	(4) Regulations.—The nonpartisan agency
13	established or designated under this subsection shall
14	adopt and publish regulations, after notice and op-
15	portunity for comment, establishing the procedures
16	that the agency will follow in fulfilling its duties
17	under this Act, including the procedures to be used
18	in vetting the qualifications and political affiliation
19	of applicants and in creating the selection pools, the
20	randomized process to be used in selecting the initial
21	members of the independent redistricting commis-
22	sion, and the rules that the agency will apply to en-
23	sure that the agency carries out its duties under this
24	Act in a maximally transparent, publicly accessible,
25	and impartial manner.

1	(5) Designation of existing agency.—At
2	its option, a State may designate an existing agency
3	in the legislative branch of its government to appoint
4	the members of the independent redistricting com-
5	mission plan for the State under this Act, so long
6	as the agency meets the requirements for non-
7	partisanship under this subsection.
8	(6) TERMINATION OF AGENCY SPECIFICALLY
9	ESTABLISHED FOR REDISTRICTING.—If a State does
10	not designate an existing agency under paragraph
11	(5) but instead establishes a new agency to serve as
12	the nonpartisan agency under this section, the new
13	agency shall terminate upon the enactment into law
14	of the redistricting plan for the State.
15	(7) Preservation of Records.—The State
16	shall ensure that the records of the nonpartisan
17	agency are retained in the appropriate State archive
18	in such manner as may be necessary to enable the
19	State to respond to any civil action brought with re-
20	spect to congressional redistricting in the State.
21	(8) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the re-
22	quirements of this subsection not later than each
23	October 15 of a year ending in the numeral nine.
24	(b) Establishment of Select Committee on Re-
25	DISTRICTING.—

1	(1) In General.—Each State shall appoint a
2	Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or dis-
3	approve a selection pool developed by the inde-
4	pendent redistricting commission for the State under
5	section 202.
6	(2) Appointment.—The Select Committee on
7	Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall
8	consist of the following members:
9	(A) One member of the upper house of the
10	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
11	leader of the party with the greatest number of
12	seats in the upper house.
13	(B) One member of the upper house of the
14	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
15	leader of the party with the second greatest
16	number of seats in the upper house.
17	(C) One member of the lower house of the
18	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
19	leader of the party with the greatest number of
20	seats in the lower house.
21	(D) One member of the lower house of the
22	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
23	leader of the party with the second greatest
24	number of seats in the lower house.

1	(3) Special rule for states with unicam-
2	ERAL LEGISLATURE.—In the case of a State with a
3	unicameral legislature, the Select Committee on Re-
4	districting for the State under this subsection shall
5	consist of the following members:
6	(A) Two members of the State legislature
7	appointed by the chair of the political party of
8	the State whose candidate received the highest
9	percentage of votes in the most recent statewide
10	election for Federal office held in the State.
11	(B) Two members of the State legislature
12	appointed by the chair of the political party
13	whose candidate received the second highest
14	percentage of votes in the most recent statewide
15	election for Federal office held in the State.
16	(4) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the re-
17	quirements of this subsection not later than each
18	January 15 of a year ending in the numeral zero
19	(5) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this
20	subsection may be construed to prohibit the leader
21	of any political party in a legislature from appoint-
22	ment to the Select Committee on Redistricting.

1	SEC. 205. REPORT ON DIVERSITY OF MEMBERSHIPS OF
2	INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS-
3	SIONS.
4	Not later than May 15 of a year ending in the nu-
5	meral one, the Comptroller General of the United States
6	shall submit to Congress a report on the extent to which
7	the memberships of independent redistricting commissions
8	for States established under this title with respect to the
9	immediately preceding year ending in the numeral zero
10	meet the diversity requirements as provided for in sections
11	201(a)(2)(B) and $202(b)(2)$.
12	TITLE III—ROLE OF COURTS IN
13	DEVELOPMENT OF REDIS-
14	TRICTING PLANS
15	SEC. 301. ENACTMENT OF PLAN DEVELOPED BY 3-JUDGE
16	COURT.
17	(a) Development of Plan.—If any of the trig-
18	gering events described in subsection (f) occur with re-
19	spect to a State—
20	(1) not later than December 15 of the year in
21	which the triggering event occurs, the United States
22	district court for the applicable venue, acting
23	through a 3-judge Court convened pursuant to sec-
24	tion 2284 of title 28, United States Code, shall de-
25	velop and publish the congressional redistricting
26	plan for the State; and

1	(2) the final plan developed and published by
2	the Court under this section shall be deemed to be
3	enacted on the date on which the Court publishes
4	the final plan, as described in subsection (d).
5	(b) Applicable Venue Described.—For purposes
6	of this section, the "applicable venue" with respect to a
7	State is the District of Columbia or the judicial district
8	in which the capital of the State is located, as selected
9	by the first party to file with the court sufficient evidence
10	of the occurrence of a triggering event described in sub-
11	section (f).
12	(c) Procedures for Development of Plan.—
13	(1) Criteria.—In developing a redistricting
14	plan for a State under this section, the Court shall
15	adhere to the same terms and conditions that ap-
16	plied (or that would have applied, as the case may
17	be) to the development of a plan by the independent
18	redistricting commission of the State under section
19	103.
20	(2) Access to information and records of
21	COMMISSION.—The Court shall have access to any
22	information, data, software, or other records and
23	material that was used (or that would have been
24	used, as the case may be) by the independent redis-

1	tricting commission of the State in carrying out its
2	duties under this subtitle.
3	(3) Hearing; Public Participation.—In de-
4	veloping a redistricting plan for a State, the Court
5	shall—
6	(A) hold one or more evidentiary hearings
7	at which interested members of the public may
8	appear and be heard and present testimony, in-
9	cluding expert testimony, in accordance with
10	the rules of the Court; and
11	(B) consider other submissions and com-
12	ments by the public, including proposals for re-
13	districting plans to cover the entire State or
14	any portion of the State.
15	(4) Use of special master.—To assist in the
16	development and publication of a redistricting plan
17	for a State under this section, the Court may ap-
18	point a special master to make recommendations to
19	the Court on possible plans for the State.
20	(d) Publication of Plan.—
21	(1) Public availability of initial plan.—
22	Upon completing the development of one or more
23	initial redistricting plans, the Court shall make the
24	plans available to the public at no cost, and shall
25	also make available the underlying data used by the

1	Court to develop the plans and a written evaluation
2	of the plans against external metrics (as described in
3	section $203(d)$).
4	(2) Publication of final plan.—At any
5	time after the expiration of the 14-day period which
6	begins on the date the Court makes the plans avail-
7	able to the public under paragraph (1), and taking
8	into consideration any submissions and comments by
9	the public which are received during such period, the
10	Court shall develop and publish the final redis-
11	tricting plan for the State.
12	(e) USE OF INTERIM PLAN.—In the event that the
13	Court is not able to develop and publish a final redis-
14	tricting plan for the State with sufficient time for an up-
15	coming election to proceed, the Court may develop and
16	publish an interim redistricting plan which shall serve as
17	the redistricting plan for the State until the Court devel-
18	ops and publishes a final plan in accordance with this sec-
19	tion. Nothing in this subsection may be construed to limit
20	or otherwise affect the authority or discretion of the Court
21	to develop and publish the final redistricting plan, includ-
22	ing but not limited to the discretion to make any changes
23	the Court deems necessary to an interim redistricting
24	plan.

1	(f) Triggering Events Described.—The "trig-
2	gering events" described in this subsection are as follows:
3	(1) The failure of the State to establish or des-
4	ignate a nonpartisan agency of the State legislature
5	under section 204(a) prior to the expiration of the
6	deadline set forth in section 204(a)(5).
7	(2) The failure of the State to appoint a Select
8	Committee on Redistricting under section 204(b)
9	prior to the expiration of the deadline set forth in
10	section $204(b)(4)$.
11	(3) The failure of the Select Committee on Re-
12	districting to approve any selection pool under sec-
13	tion 202 prior to the expiration of the deadline set
14	forth for the approval of the second replacement se-
15	lection pool in section $202(d)(2)$.
16	(4) The failure of the independent redistricting
17	commission of the State to approve a final redis-
18	tricting plan for the State prior to the expiration of
19	the deadline set forth in section 203(e).
20	SEC. 302. SPECIAL RULE FOR REDISTRICTING CONDUCTED
21	UNDER ORDER OF FEDERAL COURT.
22	If a Federal court requires a State to conduct redis-
23	tricting subsequent to an apportionment of Representa-
24	tives in the State in order to comply with the Constitution
25	or to enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965, section 203

- 1 shall apply with respect to the redistricting, except that
- 2 the court may revise any of the deadlines set forth in such
- 3 section if the court determines that a revision is appro-
- 4 priate in order to provide for a timely enactment of a new
- 5 redistricting plan for the State.

6 TITLE IV—ADMINISTRATIVE AND

7 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

- 8 SEC. 401. PAYMENTS TO STATES FOR CARRYING OUT RE-
- 9 **DISTRICTING.**
- 10 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF PAYMENTS.—Subject to sub-
- 11 section (d), not later than 30 days after a State receives
- 12 a State apportionment notice, the Election Assistance
- 13 Commission shall, subject to the availability of appropria-
- 14 tions provided pursuant to subsection (e), make a payment
- 15 to the State in an amount equal to the product of—
- 16 (1) the number of Representatives to which the
- 17 State is entitled, as provided under the notice; and
- 18 (2) \$150,000.
- 19 (b) Use of Funds.—A State shall use the payment
- 20 made under this section to establish and operate the
- 21 State's independent redistricting commission, to imple-
- 22 ment the State redistricting plan, and to otherwise carry
- 23 out congressional redistricting in the State.
- 24 (c) No Payment to States With Single Mem-
- 25 Ber.—The Election Assistance Commission shall not

1	make a payment under this section to any State which
2	is not entitled to more than one Representative under its
3	State apportionment notice.
4	(d) Requiring Submission of Selection Pool as
5	CONDITION OF PAYMENT.—
6	(1) Requirement.—Except as provided in
7	paragraph (2) and paragraph (3), the Election As-
8	sistance Commission may not make a payment to a
9	State under this section until the State certifies to
10	the Commission that the nonpartisan agency estab-
11	lished or designated by a State under section 204(a)
12	has, in accordance with section 202(b)(1), submitted
13	a selection pool to the Select Committee on Redis-
14	tricting for the State established under section
15	204(b).
16	(2) Exception for states with existing
17	COMMISSIONS.—In the case of a State which, pursu-
18	ant to section 101(c), is exempt from the require-
19	ments of section 101(a), the Commission may not
20	make a payment to the State under this section until
21	the State certifies to the Commission that its redis-
22	tricting commission meets the requirements of sec-
23	tion $101(e)$.
24	(3) Exception for state of Iowa.—In the
25	case of the State of Iowa, the Commission may not

1	make a payment to the State under this section until
2	the State certifies to the Commission that it will
3	carry out congressional redistricting pursuant to the
4	State's apportionment notice in accordance with a
5	plan developed by the Iowa Legislative Services
6	Agency with the assistance of a Temporary Redis-
7	tricting Advisory Commission, as provided under the
8	law described in section 101(d).
9	(e) Authorization of Appropriations.—There
10	are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be
11	necessary for payments under this section.
12	SEC. 402. CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.
13	(a) CIVIL ENFORCEMENT.—
14	(1) ACTIONS BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.—The At-
15	torney General may bring a civil action in an appro-
16	priate district court for such relief as may be appro-
17	priate to carry out this subtitle.
18	(2) Availability of private right of ac-
19	TION.—Any citizen of a State who is aggrieved by
20	the failure of the State to meet the requirements of
21	this Act may bring a civil action in the United
22	States district court for the applicable venue for
23	such relief as may be appropriate to remedy the fail-
24	ure. For purposes of this section, the "applicable
25	venue" is the District of Columbia or the judicial

1	district in which the capital of the State is located,
2	as selected by the person who brings the civil action.
3	(b) Expedited Consideration.—In any action
4	brought forth under this section, the following rules shall
5	apply:
6	(1) The action shall be filed in the district court
7	of the United States for the District of Columbia or
8	for the judicial district in which the capital of the
9	State is located, as selected by the person bringing
10	the action.
11	(2) The action shall be heard by a 3-judge
12	court convened pursuant to section 2284 of title 28,
13	United States Code.
14	(3) The 3-judge court shall consolidate actions
15	brought for relief under subsection $(b)(1)$ with re-
16	spect to the same State redistricting plan.
17	(4) A copy of the complaint shall be delivered
18	promptly to the Clerk of the House of Representa-
19	tives and the Secretary of the Senate.
20	(5) A final decision in the action shall be re-
21	viewable only by appeal directly to the Supreme
22	Court of the United States. Such appeal shall be
23	taken by the filing of a notice of appeal within 10
24	days, and the filing of a jurisdictional statement
25	within 30 days, of the entry of the final decision.

1	(6) It shall be the duty of the district court and
2	the Supreme Court of the United States to advance
3	on the docket and to expedite to the greatest pos-
4	sible extent the disposition of the action and appeal.
5	(c) Remedies.—
6	(1) Adoption of Replacement Plan.—
7	(A) In general.—If the district court in
8	an action under this section finds that the con-
9	gressional redistricting plan of a State violates,
10	in whole or in part, the requirements of this
11	Act—
12	(i) the Court shall adopt a replace-
13	ment congressional redistricting plan for
14	the State in accordance with the process
15	set forth in section 301; or
16	(ii) if circumstances warrant and no
17	delay to an upcoming regularly scheduled
18	election for the House of Representatives
19	in the State would result, the district court
20	may allow a State to develop and propose
21	a remedial congressional redistricting plan
22	for consideration by the court, and such
23	remedial plan may be developed by the
24	State by adopting such appropriate

1	changes to the State's enacted plan as may
2	be ordered by the court.
3	(B) Special rule in case final adju-
4	DICATION NOT EXPECTED WITHIN 3 MONTHS
5	OF ELECTION.—If final adjudication of an ac-
6	tion under this section is not reasonably ex-
7	pected to be completed at least three months
8	prior to the next regularly scheduled election
9	for the House of Representatives in the State,
10	the district court shall, as the balance of equi-
11	ties warrant—
12	(i) order development, adoption, and
13	use of an interim congressional redis-
14	tricting plan in accordance with section
15	301(e) to address any claims under this
16	title for which a party seeking relief has
17	demonstrated a substantial likelihood of
18	success; or
19	(ii) order adjustments to the timing of
20	primary elections for the House of Rep-
21	resentatives, as needed, to allow sufficient
22	opportunity for adjudication of the matter
23	and adoption of a remedial or replacement
24	plan for use in the next regularly sched-

1	uled general elections for the House of
2	Representatives.
3	(2) No injunctive relief permitted.—Any
4	remedial or replacement congressional redistricting
5	plan ordered under this subsection shall not be sub-
6	ject to temporary or preliminary injunctive relief
7	from any court unless the record establishes that a
8	writ of mandamus is warranted.
9	(3) No stay pending appeal.—Notwith-
10	standing the appeal of an order finding that a con-
11	gressional redistricting plan of a State violates, in
12	whole or in part, the requirements of this Act, no
13	stay shall issue which shall bar the development or
14	adoption of a replacement or remedial plan under
15	this subsection, as may be directed by the district
16	court, pending such appeal.
17	(d) Attorney's Fees.—In a civil action under this
18	section, the court may allow the prevailing party (other
19	than the United States) reasonable attorney fees, includ-
20	ing litigation expenses, and costs.
21	(e) Relation to Other Laws.—
22	(1) Rights and remedies additional to
23	OTHER RIGHTS AND REMEDIES.—The rights and
24	remedies established by this section are in addition
25	to all other rights and remedies provided by law, and

1	neither the rights and remedies established by this
2	section nor any other provision of this Act shall su-
3	persede, restrict, or limit the application of the Vot-
4	ing Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. 10301 et seq.).
5	(2) Voting rights act of 1965.—Nothing in
6	this Act authorizes or requires conduct that is pro-
7	hibited by the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C.
8	10301 et seq.).
9	(f) Legislative Privilege.—No person, legisla-
10	ture, or State may claim legislative privilege under either
11	State or Federal law in a civil action brought under this
12	section or in any other legal challenge, under either State
13	or Federal law, to a redistricting plan enacted under this
14	subtitle.
15	SEC. 403. STATE APPORTIONMENT NOTICE DEFINED.
16	In this Act, the "State apportionment notice" means,
17	with respect to a State, the notice sent to the State from
18	the Clerk of the House of Representatives under section
19	22(b) of the Act entitled "An Act to provide for the fif-
20	teenth and subsequent decennial censuses and to provide
21	for an apportionment of Representatives in Congress", ap-
22	proved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a), of the number of

23 Representatives to which the State is entitled.

1	SEC. 404. NO EFFECT ON ELECTIONS FOR STATE AND
2	LOCAL OFFICE.
3	Nothing in this Act or in any amendment made by
4	this Act may be construed to affect the manner in which
5	a State carries out elections for State or local office, in-
6	cluding the process by which a State establishes the dis-
7	tricts used in such elections.
8	SEC. 405. EFFECTIVE DATE.
9	This Act and the amendments made by this Act shall
10	apply with respect to redistricting carried out pursuant to
11	the decennial census conducted during 2030 or any suc-
12	ceeding decennial census.
13	TITLE V—REQUIREMENTS FOR
14	REDISTRICTING CARRIED
15	OUT PURSUANT TO 2020 CEN-
16	SUS
17	* *
18	Requirements for Redistricting
19	Carried Out Pursuant to 2020
20	Census
21	SEC. 501. APPLICATION OF CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR
22	REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT PURSUANT TO
23	2020 CENSUS.
24	Notwithstanding section 405, titles I, III, and IV of
25	this Act and the amendments made by such titles shall
26	apply with respect to congressional redistricting carried

1	out pursuant to the decennial census conducted during
2	2020 in the same manner as such titles and the amend-
3	ments made by such titles apply with respect to redis-
4	tricting carried out pursuant to the decennial census con-
5	ducted during 2030, except as follows:
6	(1) Except as provided in subsection (c) and
7	subsection (d) of section 101, the redistricting shall
8	be conducted in accordance with—
9	(A) the redistricting plan developed and
10	enacted into law by the independent redis-
11	tricting commission established in the State in
12	accordance with subtitle B; or
13	(B) if a plan developed by such commission
14	is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan
15	developed and enacted into law by a 3-judge
16	court in accordance with section 301.
17	(2) If any of the triggering events described in
18	section 502 occur with respect to the State, the
19	United States district court for the applicable venue
20	shall develop and publish the redistricting plan for
21	the State, in accordance with section 301, [not later
22	than December 15, 2024.
23	(3) For purposes of section 401(d)(1), the Elec-
24	tion Assistance Commission may not make a pay-
25	ment to a State under such section until the State

1	certifies to the Commission that the nonpartisan
2	agency established or designated by a State under
3	section 514(a) has, in accordance with section
4	512(b)(1), submitted a selection pool to the Select
5	Committee on Redistricting for the State established
6	under section 514(b).
7	SEC. 502. TRIGGERING EVENTS.
8	For purposes of the redistricting carried out pursuant
9	to the decennial census conducted during 2020, the trig-
10	gering events described in this section are as follows:
11	(1) The failure of the State to establish or des-
12	ignate a nonpartisan agency under section 514(a)
13	prior to the expiration of the deadline under section
14	514(a)(6).
15	(2) The failure of the State to appoint a Select
16	Committee on Redistricting under section 514(b)
17	prior to the expiration of the deadline under section
18	514(b)(4).
19	(3) The failure of the Select Committee on Re-
20	districting to approve a selection pool under section
21	512(b) prior to the expiration of the deadline under
22	section $512(b)(7)$.
23	(4) The failure of the independent redistricting
24	commission of the State to approve a final redis-
25	tricting plan for the State under section 513 prior

1	to the expiration of the deadline under section
2	513(e).
3	Subtitle B—Independent Redis-
4	tricting Commissions for Redis-
5	tricting Carried Out Pursuant
6	to 2020 Census
7	SEC. 511. USE OF INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS-
8	SIONS FOR REDISTRICTING CARRIED OUT
9	PURSUANT TO 2020 CENSUS.
10	(a) Appointment of Members.—
11	(1) In general.—The nonpartisan agency es-
12	tablished or designated by a State under section
13	514(a) shall establish an independent redistricting
14	commission under this title for the State, which shall
15	consist of 15 members appointed by the agency as
16	follows:
17	(A) Not later than [August 5, 2024], the
18	agency shall, at a public meeting held not ear-
19	lier than 15 days after notice of the meeting
20	has been given to the public, first appoint 6
21	members as follows:
22	(i) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
23	bers on a random basis from the majority
24	category of the approved selection pool (as
25	described in section 512(b)(1)(A)).

1	(ii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
2	bers on a random basis from the minority
3	category of the approved selection pool (as
4	described in section 512(b)(1)(B)).
5	(iii) The agency shall appoint 2 mem-
6	bers on a random basis from the inde-
7	pendent category of the approved selection
8	pool (as described in section 512(b)(1)(C)).
9	(B) [Not later than August 15, 2024], the
10	members appointed by the agency under sub-
11	paragraph (A) shall, at a public meeting held
12	not earlier than 15 days after notice of the
13	meeting has been given to the public, then ap-
14	point 9 members as follows:
15	(i) The members shall appoint 3 mem-
16	bers from the majority category of the ap-
17	proved selection pool (as described in sec-
18	tion $512(b)(1)(A)$).
19	(ii) The members shall appoint 3
20	members from the minority category of the
21	approved selection pool (as described in
22	section $512(b)(1)(B)$).
23	(iii) The members shall appoint 3
24	members from the independent category of

1	the approved selection pool (as described in
2	section $512(b)(1)(C)$.
3	(2) Rules for appointment of members
4	APPOINTED BY FIRST MEMBERS.—
5	(A) Affirmative vote of at least 4
6	MEMBERS.—The appointment of any of the 9
7	members of the independent redistricting com-
8	mission who are appointed by the first members
9	of the commission pursuant to subparagraph
10	(B) of paragraph (1) shall require the affirma-
11	tive vote of at least 4 of the members appointed
12	by the nonpartisan agency under subparagraph
13	(A) of paragraph (1), including at least one
14	member from each of the categories referred to
15	in such subparagraph.
16	(B) Ensuring diversity.—In appointing
17	the 9 members pursuant to subparagraph (B)
18	of paragraph (1), the first members of the inde-
19	pendent redistricting commission shall ensure
20	that the membership is representative of the de-
21	mographic groups (including racial, ethnic, eco-
22	nomic, and gender) and geographic regions of
23	the State, and provides racial, ethnic, and lan-
24	guage minorities protected under the Voting
25	Rights Act of 1965 with a meaningful oppor-

1	tunity to participate in the development of the
2	State's redistricting plan.
3	(3) Removal.—A member of the independent
4	redistricting commission may be removed by a ma-
5	jority vote of the remaining members of the commis-
6	sion if it is shown by a preponderance of the evi-
7	dence that the member is not eligible to serve on the
8	commission under section 512(a).
9	(b) Procedures for Conducting Commission
10	Business.—
11	(1) REQUIRING MAJORITY APPROVAL FOR AC-
12	TIONS.—The independent redistricting commission
13	of a State under this title may not publish and dis-
14	seminate any draft or final redistricting plan, or
15	take any other action, without the approval of at
16	least—
17	(A) a majority of the whole membership of
18	the commission; and
19	(B) at least one member of the commission
20	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-
21	proved selection pool described in section
22	512(b)(1).
23	(2) Quorum.—A majority of the members of
24	the commission shall constitute a quorum.
25	(c) Staff; Contractors.—

1	(1) Staff.—Under a public application process
2	in which all application materials are available for
3	public inspection, the independent redistricting com-
4	mission of a State under this title shall appoint and
5	set the pay of technical experts, legal counsel, con-
6	sultants, and such other staff as it considers appro-
7	priate, subject to State law.
8	(2) Contractors.—The independent redis-
9	tricting commission of a State may enter into such
10	contracts with vendors as it considers appropriate
11	subject to State law, except that any such contract
12	shall be valid only if approved by the vote of a ma-
13	jority of the members of the commission, including
14	at least one member appointed from each of the cat-
15	egories of the approved selection pool described in
16	section $512(b)(1)$.
17	(3) Goal of impartiality.—The commission
18	shall take such steps as it considers appropriate to
19	ensure that any staff appointed under this sub-
20	section, and any vendor with whom the commission
21	enters into a contract under this subsection, will
22	work in an impartial manner.
23	(d) Preservation of Records.—The State shall
24	ensure that the records of the independent redistricting
25	commission are retained in the appropriate State archive

1	in such manner as may be necessary to enable the State
2	to respond to any civil action brought with respect to con-
3	gressional redistricting in the State.
4	SEC. 512. ESTABLISHMENT OF SELECTION POOL OF INDI-
5	VIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS MEMBERS
6	OF COMMISSION.
7	(a) Criteria for Eligibility.—
8	(1) In general.—An individual is eligible to
9	serve as a member of an independent redistricting
10	commission under this title if the individual meets
11	each of the following criteria:
12	(A) As of the date of appointment, the in-
13	dividual is registered to vote in elections for
14	Federal office held in the State.
15	(B) During the 3-year period ending on
16	the date of the individual's appointment, the in-
17	dividual has been continuously registered to
18	vote with the same political party, or has not
19	been registered to vote with any political party.
20	(C) The individual submits to the non-
21	partisan agency established or designated by a
22	State under section 514, at such time and in
23	such form as the agency may require, an appli-
24	cation for inclusion in the selection pool under
25	this section, and includes with the application a

1	written statement, with an attestation under
2	penalty of perjury, containing the following in-
3	formation and assurances:
4	(i) The full current name and any
5	former names of, and the contact informa-
6	tion for, the individual, including an elec-
7	tronic mail address, the address of the in-
8	dividual's residence, mailing address, and
9	telephone numbers.
10	(ii) The individual's race, ethnicity,
11	gender, age, date of birth, and household
12	income for the most recent taxable year.
13	(iii) The political party with which the
14	individual is affiliated, if any.
15	(iv) The reason or reasons the indi-
16	vidual desires to serve on the independent
17	redistricting commission, the individual's
18	qualifications, and information relevant to
19	the ability of the individual to be fair and
20	impartial, including, but not limited to—
21	(I) any involvement with, or fi-
22	nancial support of, professional, so-
23	cial, political, religious, or community
24	organizations or causes;

[Discussion Draft]

77

1	(II) the individual's employment
2	and educational history.
3	(v) An assurance that the individual
4	shall commit to carrying out the individ-
5	ual's duties under this Act in an honest,
6	independent, and impartial fashion, and to
7	upholding public confidence in the integrity
8	of the redistricting process.
9	(vi) An assurance that, during such
10	covered period as the State may establish
11	with respect to any of the subparagraphs
12	of paragraph (2), the individual has not
13	taken and will not take any action which
14	would disqualify the individual from serv-
15	ing as a member of the commission under
16	such paragraph.
17	(2) Disqualifications.—An individual is not
18	eligible to serve as a member of the commission if
19	any of the following applies with respect to such cov-
20	ered period as the State may establish:
21	(A) The individual or an immediate family
22	member of the individual holds public office or
23	is a candidate for election for public office.
24	(B) The individual or an immediate family
25	member of the individual serves as an officer of

1	a political party or as an officer, employee, or
2	paid consultant of a campaign committee of a
3	candidate for public office or of any political ac-
4	tion committee (as determined in accordance
5	with the law of the State).
6	(C) The individual or an immediate family
7	member of the individual holds a position as a
8	registered lobbyist under the Lobbying Disclo-
9	sure Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.) or an
10	equivalent State or local law.
11	(D) The individual or an immediate family
12	member of the individual is an employee of an
13	elected public official, a contractor with the gov-
14	ernment of the State, or a donor to the cam-
15	paign of any candidate for public office or to
16	any political action committee (other than a
17	donor who, during any of such covered periods,
18	gives an aggregate amount of \$1,000 or less to
19	the campaigns of all candidates for all public
20	offices and to all political action committees).
21	(E) The individual paid a civil money pen-
22	alty or criminal fine, or was sentenced to a
23	term of imprisonment, for violating any provi-
24	sion of the Federal Election Campaign Act of
25	1971 (52 U.S.C. 30101 et seq.).

1	(F) The individual or an immediate family
2	member of the individual is an agent of a for-
3	eign principal under the Foreign Agents Reg-
4	istration Act of 1938, as amended (22 U.S.C.
5	611 et seq.).
6	(3) Immediate family member defined.—In
7	this subsection, the term "immediate family mem-
8	ber" means, with respect to an individual, a father,
9	stepfather, mother, stepmother, son, stepson, daugh-
10	ter, stepdaughter, brother, stepbrother, sister, step-
11	sister, husband, wife, father-in-law, or mother-in-
12	law.
13	(b) Development and Submission of Selection
14	Pool.—
15	(1) In general.—[Not later than July 15,
16	2024], the nonpartisan agency established or des-
17	ignated by a State under section 514(a) shall de-
18	velop and submit to the Select Committee on Redis-
19	tricting for the State established under section
20	514(b) a selection pool of 36 individuals who are eli-
21	gible to serve as members of the independent redis-
22	tricting commission of the State under this title,
2223	tricting commission of the State under this title, consisting of individuals in the following categories:

1	party whose candidate received the most votes
2	in the most recent Statewide election for Fed-
3	eral office held in the State.
4	(B) A minority category, consisting of 12
5	individuals who are affiliated with the political
6	party whose candidate received the second most
7	votes in the most recent Statewide election for
8	Federal office held in the State.
9	(C) An independent category, consisting of
10	12 individuals who are not affiliated with either
11	of the political parties described in subpara-
12	graph (A) or subparagraph (B).
13	(2) Factors taken into account in Devel-
14	OPING POOL.—In selecting individuals for the selec-
15	tion pool under this subsection, the nonpartisan
16	agency shall—
17	(A) ensure that the pool is representative
18	of the demographic groups (including racial,
19	ethnic, economic, and gender) and geographic
20	regions of the State, and includes applicants
21	who would allow racial, ethnic, and language
22	minorities protected under the Voting Rights
23	Act of 1965 a meaningful opportunity to par-
24	ticipate in the development of the State's redis-
25	tricting plan; and

1	(B) take into consideration the analytical
2	skills of the individuals selected in relevant
3	fields (including mapping, data management,
4	law, community outreach, demography, and the
5	geography of the State) and their ability to
6	work on an impartial basis.
7	(3) Determination of Political Party Af-
8	FILIATION OF INDIVIDUALS IN SELECTION POOL.—
9	For purposes of this section, an individual shall be
10	considered to be affiliated with a political party only
11	if the nonpartisan agency is able to verify (to the
12	greatest extent possible) the information the indi-
13	vidual provides in the application submitted under
14	subsection $(a)(1)(C)$, including by considering addi-
15	tional information provided by other persons with
16	knowledge of the individual's history of political ac-
17	tivity.
18	(4) Encouraging residents to apply for
19	INCLUSION IN POOL.—The nonpartisan agency shall
20	take such steps as may be necessary to ensure that
21	residents of the State across various geographic re-
22	gions and demographic groups are aware of the op-
23	portunity to serve on the independent redistricting
24	commission, including publicizing the role of the
25	panel and using newspapers, broadcast media, and

1	online sources, including ethnic media, to encourage
2	individuals to apply for inclusion in the selection
3	pool developed under this subsection.
4	(5) Report on establishment of selec-
5	TION POOL.—At the time the nonpartisan agency
6	submits the selection pool to the Select Committee
7	on Redistricting under paragraph (1), it shall pub-
8	lish a report describing the process by which the
9	pool was developed, and shall include in the report
10	a description of how the individuals in the pool meet
11	the eligibility criteria of subsection (a) and of how
12	the pool reflects the factors the agency is required
13	to take into consideration under paragraph (2).
14	(6) Public comment on selection pool.—
15	During the 14-day period which begins on the date
16	the nonpartisan agency publishes the report under
17	paragraph (5), the agency shall accept comments
18	from the public on the individuals included in the se-
19	lection pool. The agency shall transmit all such com-
20	ments to the Select Committee on Redistricting im-
21	mediately upon the expiration of such period.
22	(7) ACTION BY SELECT COMMITTEE.—
23	(A) IN GENERAL.—[Not later than August
24	1, 2024], the Select Committee on Redis-
25	tricting shall—

1	(i) approve the pool as submitted by
2	the nonpartisan agency, in which case the
3	pool shall be considered the approved selec-
4	tion pool for purposes of section 511(a)(1);
5	or
6	(ii) reject the pool, in which case the
7	redistricting plan for the State shall be de-
8	veloped and enacted in accordance with
9	title III.
10	(B) INACTION DEEMED REJECTION.—If
11	the Select Committee on Redistricting fails to
12	approve or reject the pool within the deadline
13	set forth in subparagraph (A), the Select Com-
14	mittee shall be deemed to have rejected the pool
15	for purposes of such subparagraph.
16	SEC. 513. CRITERIA FOR REDISTRICTING PLAN; PUBLIC NO-
17	TICE AND INPUT.
18	(a) Public Notice and Input.—
19	(1) Use of open and transparent proc-
20	Ess.—The independent redistricting commission of a
21	State under this title shall hold each of its meetings
22	in public, shall solicit and take into consideration
23	comments from the public, including proposed maps,
24	throughout the process of developing the redis-

1	duties in an open and transparent manner which
2	provides for the widest public dissemination reason-
3	ably possible of its proposed and final redistricting
4	plans.
5	(2) Public comment period.—The commis-
6	sion shall solicit, accept, and consider comments
7	from the public with respect to its duties, activities,
8	and procedures at any time until 7 days before the
9	date of the meeting at which the commission shall
10	vote on approving the final redistricting plan for en-
11	actment into law under subsection $(c)(2)$.
12	(3) Meetings and hearings in various geo-
13	GRAPHIC LOCATIONS.—To the greatest extent prac-
14	ticable, the commission shall hold its meetings and
15	hearings in various geographic regions and locations
16	throughout the State.
17	(4) Multiple language requirements for
18	ALL NOTICES.—The commission shall make each no-
19	tice which is required to be published under this sec-
20	tion available in any language in which the State (or
21	any jurisdiction in the State) is required to provide
22	election materials under section 203 of the Voting
23	Rights Act of 1965.
24	(b) Development and Publication of Prelimi-
25	NARY REDISTRICTING PLAN.—

1	(1) In general.—Prior to developing and pub-
2	lishing a final redistricting plan under subsection
3	(c), the independent redistricting commission of a
4	State under this title shall develop and publish a
5	preliminary redistricting plan.
6	(2) Minimum public hearings and oppor-
7	TUNITY FOR COMMENT PRIOR TO DEVELOPMENT.—
8	(A) 2 Hearings required.—Prior to de-
9	veloping a preliminary redistricting plan under
10	this subsection, the commission shall hold not
11	fewer than 2 public hearings at which members
12	of the public may provide input and comments
13	regarding the potential contents of redistricting
14	plans for the State and the process by which
15	the commission will develop the preliminary
16	plan under this subsection.
17	(B) NOTICE PRIOR TO HEARINGS.—The
18	commission shall provide for the publication of
19	notices of each hearing held under this para-
20	graph, including in newspapers of general cir-
21	culation throughout the State. Each such notice
22	shall specify the date, time, and location of the
23	hearing.
24	(C) Submission of plans and maps by
25	MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC.—Any member of

1	the public may submit maps or portions of
2	maps for consideration by the commission.
3	(3) Publication of Preliminary Plan.—The
4	commission shall provide for the publication of the
5	preliminary redistricting plan developed under this
6	subsection, including in newspapers of general cir-
7	culation throughout the State, and shall make pub-
8	licly available a report that includes the commis-
9	sion's responses to any public comments received
10	under this subsection.
11	(4) Public comment after publication.—
12	The commission shall accept and consider comments
13	from the public with respect to the preliminary re-
14	districting plan published under paragraph (3), in-
15	cluding proposed revisions to maps, until 14 days
16	before the date of the meeting under subsection
17	(c)(2) at which the members of the commission shall
18	vote on approving the final redistricting plan for en-
19	actment into law.
20	(5) Post-publication hearings.—
21	(A) 2 HEARINGS REQUIRED.—After pub-
22	lishing the preliminary redistricting plan under
23	paragraph (3), and not later than 14 days be-
24	fore the date of the meeting under subsection
25	(c)(2) at which the members of the commission

1	shall vote on approving the final redistricting
2	plan for enactment into law, the commission
3	shall hold not fewer than 2 public hearings in
4	different geographic areas of the State at which
5	members of the public may provide input and
6	comments regarding the preliminary plan.
7	(B) NOTICE PRIOR TO HEARINGS.—The
8	commission shall provide for the publication of
9	notices of each hearing held under this para-
10	graph, including in newspapers of general cir-
11	culation throughout the State. Each such notice
12	shall specify the date, time, and location of the
13	hearing.
14	(6) Permitting multiple preliminary
15	PLANS.—At the option of the commission, after de-
16	veloping and publishing the preliminary redistricting
17	plan under this subsection, the commission may de-
18	velop and publish subsequent preliminary redis-
19	tricting plans, so long as the process for the develop-
20	ment and publication of each such subsequent plan
21	meets the requirements set forth in this subsection
22	for the development and publication of the first pre-
23	liminary redistricting plan.
24	(e) Process for Enactment of Final Redis-
25	TRICTING PLAN.—

1	(1) In General.—After taking into consider-
2	ation comments from the public on any preliminary
3	redistricting plan developed and published under
4	subsection (b), the independent redistricting commis-
5	sion of a State under this title shall develop and
6	publish a final redistricting plan for the State.
7	(2) MEETING; FINAL VOTE.—Not later than the
8	deadline specified in subsection (e), the commission
9	shall hold a public hearing at which the members of
10	the commission shall vote on approving the final
11	plan for enactment into law.
12	(3) Publication of Plan and accompanying
13	MATERIALS.—Not fewer than 14 days before the
14	date of the meeting under paragraph (2), the com-
15	mission shall make the following information to the
16	public, including through newspapers of general cir-
17	culation throughout the State:
18	(A) The final redistricting plan, including
19	all relevant maps.
20	(B) A report by the commission to accom-
21	pany the plan which provides the background
22	for the plan and the commission's reasons for
23	selecting the plan as the final redistricting plan,
24	including responses to the public comments re-

I	ceived on any preliminary redistricting plan de-
2	veloped and published under subsection (b).
3	(C) Any dissenting or additional views with
4	respect to the plan of individual members of the
5	commission.
6	(4) Enactment.—The final redistricting plan
7	developed and published under this subsection shall
8	be deemed to be enacted into law upon the expira-
9	tion of the 45-day period which begins on the date
10	on which—
11	(A) such final plan is approved by a major-
12	ity of the whole membership of the commission;
13	and
14	(B) at least one member of the commission
15	appointed from each of the categories of the ap-
16	proved selection pool described in section
17	512(b)(1) approves such final plan.
18	(d) Written Evaluation of Plan Against Ex-
19	TERNAL METRICS.—The independent redistricting com-
20	mission of a State under this title shall include with each
21	redistricting plan developed and published under this sec-
22	tion a written evaluation that measures each such plan
23	against external metrics which cover the criteria set forth
24	section 103(a), including the impact of the plan on the
25	ability of communities of color to elect candidates of

1	choice, measures of partisan fairness using multiple ac-
2	cepted methodologies, and the degree to which the plan
3	preserves or divides communities of interest.
4	(e) Deadline.—The independent redistricting com-
5	mission of a State under this title shall approve a final
6	redistricting plan for the State [not later than November
7	15, 2024].
8	SEC. 514. ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES.
9	(a) Establishment or Designation of Non-
10	PARTISAN AGENCY OF STATE LEGISLATURE.—
11	(1) In general.—Each State shall establish a
12	nonpartisan agency in the legislative branch of the
13	State government to appoint the members of the
14	independent redistricting commission for the State
15	under this title in accordance with section 511.
16	(2) Nonpartisanship described.—For pur-
17	poses of this subsection, an agency shall be consid-
18	ered to be nonpartisan if under law the agency—
19	(A) is required to provide services on a
20	nonpartisan basis;
21	(B) is required to maintain impartiality;
22	and
23	(C) is prohibited from advocating for the
24	adoption or rejection of any legislative proposal.

1	(3) Designation of existing agency.—At
2	its option, a State may designate an existing agency
3	in the legislative branch of its government to appoint
4	the members of the independent redistricting com-
5	mission plan for the State under this Act, so long
6	as the agency meets the requirements for non-
7	partisanship under this subsection.
8	(4) TERMINATION OF AGENCY SPECIFICALLY
9	ESTABLISHED FOR REDISTRICTING.—If a State does
10	not designate an existing agency under paragraph
11	(3) but instead establishes a new agency to serve as
12	the nonpartisan agency under this section, the new
13	agency shall terminate upon the enactment into law
14	of the redistricting plan for the State.
15	(5) Preservation of Records.—The State
16	shall ensure that the records of the nonpartisan
17	agency are retained in the appropriate State archive
18	in such manner as may be necessary to enable the
19	State to respond to any civil action brought with re-
20	spect to congressional redistricting in the State.
21	(6) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the re-
22	quirements of this subsection [not later than June
23	1, 2024].
24	(b) Establishment of Select Committee on Re-
25	DISTRICTING.—

1	(1) In General.—Each State shall appoint a
2	Select Committee on Redistricting to approve or dis-
3	approve a selection pool developed by the inde-
4	pendent redistricting commission for the State under
5	this title under section 512.
6	(2) APPOINTMENT.—The Select Committee on
7	Redistricting for a State under this subsection shall
8	consist of the following members:
9	(A) One member of the upper house of the
10	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
11	leader of the party with the greatest number of
12	seats in the upper house.
13	(B) One member of the upper house of the
14	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
15	leader of the party with the second greatest
16	number of seats in the upper house.
17	(C) One member of the lower house of the
18	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
19	leader of the party with the greatest number of
20	seats in the lower house.
21	(D) One member of the lower house of the
22	State legislature, who shall be appointed by the
23	leader of the party with the second greatest
24	number of seats in the lower house.

1	(3) Special rule for states with unicam-
2	ERAL LEGISLATURE.—In the case of a State with a
3	unicameral legislature, the Select Committee on Re-
4	districting for the State under this subsection shall
5	consist of the following members:
6	(A) Two members of the State legislature
7	appointed by the chair of the political party of
8	the State whose candidate received the highest
9	percentage of votes in the most recent State-
10	wide election for Federal office held in the
11	State.
12	(B) Two members of the State legislature
13	appointed by the chair of the political party
14	whose candidate received the second highest
15	percentage of votes in the most recent State-
16	wide election for Federal office held in the
17	State.
18	(4) DEADLINE.—The State shall meet the re-
19	quirements of this subsection not later than [June
20	15, 2024] .
21	(5) Rule of Construction.—Nothing in this
22	subsection may be construed to prohibit the leader
23	of any political party in a legislature from appoint-
24	ment to the Select Committee on Redistricting.

1	SEC. 515. REPORT ON DIVERSITY OF MEMBERSHIPS OF
2	INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMIS-
3	SIONS.
4	Not later than [November 15, 2024], the Comp-
5	troller General of the United States shall submit to Con-
6	gress a report on the extent to which the memberships
7	of independent redistricting commissions for States estab-
8	lished under this title with respect to the immediately pre-
9	ceding year ending in the numeral zero meet the diversity
10	requirements as provided for in sections $511(a)(2)(B)$ and
11	512(b)(2).