

By Senator Gaetz

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act establishing the congressional districts of the  
 3           state; amending s. 8.0001, F.S.; revising definitions;  
 4           amending s. 8.0002, F.S.; redistricting the state's  
 5           congressional districts in accordance with the United  
 6           States Decennial Census of 2010 (plan \_\_\_\_\_);  
 7           amending s. 8.0111, F.S., relating to the inclusion of  
 8           unlisted territory in contiguous districts; updating a  
 9           reference; reenacting s. 8.031, F.S., which provides  
 10          for the election of representatives to the United  
 11          States House of Representatives; amending s. 8.0611,  
 12          F.S.; providing for severability; amending s. 8.07,  
 13          F.S.; providing for applicability; providing effective  
 14          dates.

15  
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
 18           Section 1. Section 8.0001, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
 19           read:

20           8.0001 Definitions.—In accordance with s. 8(a), Article X  
 21           of the State Constitution, the United States Decennial Census of  
 22           2010 ~~2000~~ is the official census of the state for the purposes  
 23           of congressional redistricting.

24           (1) The following delineation of ~~areas to be included in~~  
 25           ~~each~~ congressional districts ~~district~~ employs areas included  
 26           within official county, voting tabulation district, tract, and  
 27           block boundary descriptions ~~counties, tracts, block groups, and~~  
 28           ~~blocks in this state~~ used by the United States Department of  
 29           Commerce, Bureau of the Census, in compiling the United States

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30 Decennial Census of 2010 in this state ~~2000~~. The populations  
31 within these census geographic units ~~areas~~ are the population  
32 figures reported in the counts of the United States Decennial  
33 Census of 2010 ~~2000~~ provided to the state in accordance with  
34 Pub. L. No. 94-171.

35 (2) As used in this chapter, the term:

36 (a) "Block" describes the smallest geographic unit ~~means a~~  
37 ~~census block, which is the smallest area for which population~~  
38 was tabulated ~~reported~~ in the 2010 decennial ~~2000~~ census. Blocks  
39 are nested within tracts and within voting tabulation districts.  
40 A block is identified by a four-digit integer that is unique  
41 within a tract but is not necessarily unique within a voting  
42 tabulation district.

43 (b) "Tract" describes a relatively permanent statistical  
44 subdivision of a county updated by local participants prior to  
45 the 2010 decennial census. Tracts consist of whole blocks and  
46 are nested within counties. Tracts are identified uniquely  
47 within a county by an up to four-digit integer and may have an  
48 optional two-digit suffix.

49 (c) "Voting tabulation district" describes a subdivision of  
50 a county established in Phase 2 of the 2010 Census Redistricting  
51 Data Program. Voting tabulation districts consist of whole  
52 blocks and are nested within counties. Voting tabulation  
53 districts subdivide counties in ways supervisors of elections  
54 determined are efficient for conducting elections and keeping  
55 communities whole. Voting tabulation districts are identified  
56 uniquely within a county by an up to four-digit integer.

57 (b) "Block group" ~~means a cluster of blocks within a tract~~  
58 ~~which have the same first digit in their block identification~~

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59 number.

60 ~~(c) "Tract" means a census tract, which is a cluster of~~  
61 ~~blocks within a county which is delineated by local committee~~  
62 ~~according to Census Bureau guidelines. Tracts are identified~~  
63 ~~uniquely within a county by a four-digit basic number and may~~  
64 ~~have a two-digit numeric suffix.~~

65 Section 2. Section 8.0002, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
66 read:

67 (Substantial rewording of section. See  
68 s. 8.0002, F.S., for present text.)

69 8.0002 Division of state into congressional districts.—For  
70 the election of representatives to the Unites States House of  
71 Representatives, the state is divided into 27 consecutively  
72 numbered, single-member congressional districts of contiguous  
73 territory, to be designated by such numbers as follows:

74  
75 Section 3. Section 8.0111, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
76 read:

77 8.0111 Inclusion of unlisted territory in contiguous  
78 districts.—Any portion of the state which is not stated in this  
79 chapter as being included in any district described in this  
80 chapter but which is entirely surrounded by a district shall be  
81 deemed to be included within the surrounding ~~that~~ district. Any  
82 portion of the state which is not included in any district  
83 described in this chapter and which is not entirely surrounded  
84 by a district shall be included within that district contiguous  
85 to such portion that ~~which~~ contains the least population per  
86 representative according to the United States Decennial Census  
87 of 2010 ~~2000~~; however, if every district contiguous to such

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88 portion has an equal population, such portion shall be included  
89 within the lowest-numbered ~~lowest-numbered~~ district that is  
90 contiguous to such portion.

91 Section 4. Section 8.031, Florida Statutes, is reenacted to  
92 read:

93 8.031 Election of representatives to Congress.—The  
94 districts named in s. 8.0002 constitute and form the  
95 congressional districts of the state, and a representative to  
96 the Congress shall be selected in and for each of the  
97 congressional districts as provided by law.

98 Section 5. Section 8.0611, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
99 read:

100 8.0611 Severability.—If any provision of this chapter is  
101 held invalid with respect to any person or circumstance, or if  
102 any congressional district established in this chapter is held  
103 invalid, the invalidity does ~~shall~~ not affect other provisions  
104 or applications of the chapter or any other districts  
105 established in this chapter which can be given effect without  
106 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the  
107 provisions of this chapter are ~~declared~~ severable.

108 Section 6. Effective upon this act becoming a law, section  
109 8.07, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

110 8.07 Applicability.—The congressional districts prescribed  
111 in s. 8.0002 apply with respect to the qualification,  
112 nomination, and election to the office of representative to the  
113 Congress of the United States in the primary ~~primaries~~ and  
114 general elections held in 2012 ~~2002~~ and thereafter.

115 Section 7. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
116 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon

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117 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect upon the  
118 expiration of the terms of the representatives to the United  
119 States House of Representatives serving on the date that this  
120 act becomes a law.