

CHAPTER 328

COMMISSION ON LEGISLATIVE APPORTIONMENT

S. J. R. 5

A JOINT RESOLUTION to establish a commission to conduct a study of the apportionment of the General Assembly and to make recommendations to the General Assembly, and stating principles for the study and providing for legislative action.

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the state of Iowa provides that the state of Iowa shall be apportioned into senatorial and representative districts on the basis of population as shown by the most recent United States decennial census, with each district being of compact and contiguous territory, and

WHEREAS, the said Constitution further provides that the number of senators in the senate shall total not more than one-half the membership of the house of representatives, with the senate to be composed of not more than fifty and the house of representatives not more than one hundred members, and

WHEREAS, such senatorial and representative districts must be established by the General Assembly in conformance with the said Constitution and prior to the primary elections to be held in 1970, and

WHEREAS, it is desirable to expedite the establishment of such senatorial and representative districts and to allow the General Assembly to devote its time to other matters, NOW THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

1 SECTION 1. An apportionment commission of fourteen members is
2 hereby created. No member of the commission shall also be a present mem-
3 ber of the general assembly. Within seven days after the effective date of
4 this Resolution, seven members shall be appointed by the state chairman of
5 the political party whose candidate for the office of governor received the
6 largest number of votes cast for that office in the last general election,
7 and seven members shall be appointed by the state chairman of the politi-
8 cal party whose candidate received the next largest number of votes cast
9 for that office in the last general election. In each case, the state chairman
10 shall appoint one member from each congressional district, who shall be
11 a resident of that district. If either state chairman fails to comply with this
12 section, the chief justice of the supreme court of Iowa shall immediately
13 make the appointments on behalf of the chairman. Any vacancy by reason
14 of the death or resignation of a member shall be filled in the same manner
15 as the original appointment.

1 SEC. 2. The commission shall organize, choose a chairman from its
2 membership and adopt rules for the conduct of its proceedings. The com-
3 mission may hold public hearings, consult with representatives of political
4 parties and groups, employ staff and retain expert technical assistants.
5 The commission shall have access to all public records. It shall have the
6 power of subpoena. All public officials in this state shall fully cooperate
7 with the commission and shall promptly furnish all information and assist-
8 ance requested by the commission.

9 It is the intent of the general assembly to provide by law for compensa-
10 tion of members in the amount of forty dollars for each day actually en-
11 gaged in the performance of their duties and reimbursement for their ac-

12 tual and necessary expenses. The existence of the commission shall termi-
13 nate upon April 2, 1969, except that the commission thereafter may cor-
14 rect any errors in its apportionment plan.

1 SEC. 3. On or before March 15, 1969 if possible, and in any event no
2 later than April 1, 1969, the commission shall file in the office of the sec-
3 retary of state an apportionment plan which shall be consistent with the
4 following principles:

5 a. There shall be one hundred representative districts and fifty senatorial
6 districts. Each district shall be a single-member district.

7 b. Both houses shall be apportioned on a population basis as shown by
8 the 1960 United States decennial census. Districts shall be of substantially
9 equal population and shall be of compact and contiguous territory, as re-
10 quired by the Constitution of the state of Iowa and the Constitution of
11 the United States.

12 c. Each senatorial district shall consist of two entire representative dis-
13 tricts.

14 d. No voting precinct shall be divided in forming a district.

15 e. District boundaries shall follow county boundaries wherever possible,
16 subject to constitutional requirements and the other principles stated in
17 this section.

18 f. Wherever possible, senators shall be permitted to complete the terms
19 for which they were elected. Any senator elected in 1968 for a four-year
20 term, and who is the only senator residing in his district under the appor-
21 tionment plan, shall be permitted to complete his term. If two or more
22 senators reside in the same senatorial district under the plan, that district
23 shall elect a senator in the 1970 elections and terms shall be shortened
24 where necessary to permit such election.

1 SEC. 4. The general assembly shall by statute, either adopt the appor-
2 tionment plan as submitted or as modified by the general assembly, or
3 adopt a plan of its own. Any plan adopted shall be applicable for the 1970
4 primary election, the 1970 general election and any special election to fill
5 any vacancy in the general assembly occurring after December 31, 1970.

1 SEC. 5. This Resolution being deemed of immediate importance shall
2 be in full force and effect from and after its passage and publication in the
3 Charles City Press, a newspaper published at Charles City, Iowa, and in
4 The Muscatine Journal, a newspaper published at Muscatine, Iowa.

I hereby certify that the foregoing resolution, Senate Joint Resolution 5, was published in
the Charles City Press, Charles City, Iowa, January 30, 1969 and in The Muscatine Journal,
Muscatine, Iowa, January 29, 1969.

MELVIN D. SYNHORST, *Secretary of State.*