

**CITY COUNCIL RESEARCH DIVISION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY**



JEFFREY R. CLEMENTS
Chief of Research
(904) 255-5137

117 West Duval Street
City Hall, Suite 425
Jacksonville, FL 32202
FAX (904) 255-5229

Bill Type and Number: Ordinance 2022-800

Introducer/Sponsor(s): Council President at the request of the Office of General Counsel

Date of Introduction: October 25, 2022

Committee(s) of Reference: Special Committee on Redistricting

Date of Analysis: October 27, 2022

Type of Action: Approving redistricting plan; City Charter amendment; direction to Office of General Counsel; direction to Legislative Services Division; one cycle emergency approval requested

Bill Summary: The bill approves an interim, remedial City Council and School Board redistricting plan as ordered by a federal district court judge. It amends Appendices 1, 1-A and 2 to the City Charter to replace the current council district, at-large residence area, and School Board narrative boundary descriptions with descriptions of the new districts, pending final approval by the appropriate court. It directs the Office of General Counsel to file the interim remedial plan with the court pursuant to the judge's order and directs the Legislative Services Division to forward the plan to the Municipal Code Corporation for codification. One cycle emergency passage is requested.

Background Information: On March 22, 2022 the City Council, via Ordinance 2022-1-E, adopted new City Council and School Board districts using the demographic information provided by the 2020 federal decennial census. Several organizations and individuals filed suit in federal court challenging the constitutionality of the districts, claiming that several districts violated the 14th Amendment ("Equal Protection Clause") of the U.S. Constitution and seeking an injunction against the use of the districts in the upcoming 2023 City elections. A federal district court judge granted the plaintiffs request for a preliminary injunction and ordered the Council to present new districts to the court by November 8th. This bill is being filed to serve as the legislative vehicle for adopting the new districts which are being crafted by a newly appointed Special Committee on Redistricting. The committee has been charged by the Council President to create a new proposed district plan by November 3rd for consideration and adoption by the full Council at a special meeting to be held on November 4th, and transmittal to the federal court judge by the November 8th deadline.

Policy Impact Area: Redistricting

Fiscal Impact: Undetermined

Analyst: Clements