

HOUSE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE AMENDMENT

Committee on State, Civic, Military, & Veterans Affairs.

SB21-247 be amended as follows:

1 Amend reengrossed bill, page 10, after line 21 insert:

2       **"SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add 2-2-903** as  
3 follows:

4       **2-2-903. Redistricting deadlines - legislative declaration.**

5       (1) THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FINDS THAT:

6           (a) GIVEN THE EXTENSIVE DELAYS IN RECEIVING THE CENSUS  
7 DATA, THE INDEPENDENT CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING COMMISSION  
8 AND THE INDEPENDENT LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION WILL  
9 LIKELY BE UNABLE TO ADOPT FINAL PLANS BY THE DEADLINES SET FORTH  
10 IN SECTIONS 44.4 (5)(b) AND 48.2 (5)(b) OF ARTICLE V OF THE STATE  
11 CONSTITUTION. IN TURN, THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT WILL LIKELY BE  
12 PREVENTED FROM APPROVING OR DISAPPROVING SUCH MAPS BY  
13 NOVEMBER 1 AND NOVEMBER 15, AS REQUIRED BY SECTIONS 44.5 AND  
14 48.3 OF ARTICLE V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION.

15           (b) COLORADO COURTS AND ELECTION STATUTES COMMONLY  
16 APPLY A SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE STANDARD TO ELECTION MATTERS.  
17 COLORADO COURTS ALSO INTERPRET ELECTION REQUIREMENTS TO AVOID  
18 ABSURD RESULTS THAT WOULD BE PRODUCED BY AN OVERLY TECHNICAL  
19 APPLICATION OF A STATUTORY OR CONSTITUTIONAL REQUIREMENT.

20           (c) THE SUPREME COURT HAS INHERENT AUTHORITY OVER ITS OWN  
21 PROCEDURES AND IS AUTHORIZED BY SECTIONS 44.5 AND 48.3 OF ARTICLE  
22 V OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO DEVELOP THE RULES FOR JUDICIAL  
23 REVIEW OF REDISTRICTING PLANS.

24           (2) IN ANY LEGAL PROCEEDING CHALLENGING COMPLIANCE BY THE  
25 COMMISSIONS, THE COLORADO SUPREME COURT, OR NONPARTISAN STAFF  
26 WITH THE TECHNICAL RATHER THAN SUBSTANTIVE PROVISIONS THAT  
27 IMPLEMENT THE REDISTRICTING PROCESSES ESTABLISHED IN THE  
28 COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND RELATED STATUTES, A COURT SHALL  
29 ADJUDICATE SUCH DISPUTE WITH A VIEW TO ASCERTAINING WHETHER  
30 THERE WAS SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SUCH  
31 CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY PROVISIONS.".

32       Renumber succeeding section accordingly.

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