

Support HB20-1073: County Commissioner Redistricting I-----

Representatives Kennedy and Larson • Updated 1.29.2020

In 2018, Colorado voters passed Amendments Y & Z (71%-29%) to prevent partisan gerrymandering of congressional and legislative districts, but when it comes to county commissioner districts, there are very few rules. HB20-1073 aims to match the provisions of Amendments Y & Z as closely as practicable, with changes only to simplify and reduce cost to the counties.

Competitive elections for county commissioner empower voters, promote a healthy democracy, and contribute to the fair and effective representation of constituents.

HB20-1073 requires the creation of independent commissions to divide counties that have any number of their county commissioners not elected by the voters of the whole county.

Among other things, the bill:

- Establishes the qualifications to serve on the commissions
- Requires the commission to provide the opportunity for public involvement
- Requires maps to be drawn by nonpartisan staff
- Mandates that paid lobbying of the commissions be disclosed
- Establishes prioritized factors for the commissions to consider in drawing
- Updates anachronistic county precinct size rules
- Requires judicial review

How Will Your County Be Impacted?

- Only counties who have opted to increase their number of commissioners to five and have chosen some form of representation by-district will be affected. Eligible counties must either have a population greater than 70,000 or be home-rule.
- Counties affected now: Arapahoe, El Paso, Weld.
- Counties that could be affected in the future: Adams, Boulder, Douglas, Jefferson, Larimer, Mesa, Pitkin, Pueblo