

HOUSE BILL NO. 1397

Introduced by

Representatives Pollert, Louser

Senators Klein, Wardner

1 A BILL for an Act to establish a legislative management redistricting committee, to provide for
2 the implementation of a legislative redistricting plan, to exempt drafts of redistricting plans from
3 open records requirements, and to provide for a special legislative session; to provide an
4 expiration date; and to declare an emergency.

5 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

6 **SECTION 1. LEGISLATIVE MANAGEMENT REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE - OPEN**
7 **RECORDS EXEMPTION - SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION.**

- 8 1. The chairman of the legislative management shall appoint a committee to develop a
9 legislative redistricting plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary
10 election. The committee must consist of an equal number of members from the senate
11 and the house of representatives appointed by the chairman of the legislative
12 management.
- 13 2. The committee shall ensure any legislative redistricting plan submitted to the
14 legislative assembly for consideration must be of compact and contiguous territory and
15 conform to all constitutional requirements with respect to population equality. The
16 committee may adopt additional constitutionally recognized redistricting guidelines and
17 principles to implement in preparing a legislative redistricting plan for submission to
18 the legislative assembly.
- 19 3. The committee shall submit a redistricting plan and legislation to implement the plan to
20 the legislative management by ~~October 31~~November 30, 2021.
- 21 4. A draft of the legislative redistricting plan created by the legislative council or a
22 member of the legislative assembly is an exempt record as defined in section
23 44-04-17.1 until presented or distributed at a meeting of the legislative management or
24 the legislative assembly. Any version of a redistricting plan created before the

1 completion of the plan is an exempt record regardless of whether the completed plan
2 is presented or distributed subsequently at a meeting.

3 5. The chairman of the legislative management shall request the governor to call a
4 special session of the legislative assembly pursuant to section 7 of article V of the
5 Constitution of North Dakota to allow the legislative assembly to adopt a redistricting
6 plan to be implemented in time for use in the 2022 primary election and to address any
7 other issue that may be necessary.

8 **SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE.** This Act is effective through July 31, 2022, and after that
9 date is ineffective.

10 **SECTION 3. EMERGENCY.** This Act is declared to be an emergency measure.