

Redistricting Committee Meeting

PCB CRS 22-01	
Establishing the Congressional Districts of the State	
Sponsors	Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee
HDO Analyst	David Grimes
Short Summary	This bill will set boundaries for the 28 congressional districts for the people of Florida for the next 10 years.
Key Provisions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Divides the state into 28 Congressional districts with a population of 769,221 people. This is one more district than last cycle. Each district will grow by 72,876 people compared to the benchmark plan (the existing maps). Establishes 3 protected Black districts: CD 3, CD 20, & CD 24. Maintains the Gadsden to Duval configuration known as CD 5. Establishes 3 protected Hispanic districts: CD 26, CD 27, & CD 28.
Insights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PCB is similar to plan 8003 (Workshop Plan B). The House and the Senate have reached different conclusions on whether CD 10 in central Florida near Orlando is a protected minority access district. Committee staff reports no new minority districts are created. The plan improves on most Tier Two metrics compared to the benchmark plan (reduces city splits, improves compactness, etc.). The underlying functional data for many districts has not been made available to members or the public though committee staff reports it can be extrapolated from data in the website. The sheer size of Congressional districts means some of the concerns that were present in the smaller House districts cannot manifest in the Congressional plan, or are diminished. Unlike the process for the House & Senate plans, Congressional plans are presented to the Governor for veto or approval. The Governor has threatened to veto any plan which maintains a majority Black Congressional seat in North Florida. A veto override would require a 2/3 vote putting both Democratic Caucuses into play.
Fiscal Impact	The bill will require expenditure of funds by the supervisors of elections in setting new precincts, printing ballots, responding to constituent calls, etc. Any constitutional or statutory deficiencies in the map may lead to increased expenses for the state in the form of litigation. Adoption of an unlawful or unconstitutional map will increase expenses by necessitating costly special sessions and implementation of a new map.

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Constitutional Issues	Possibly. The Fair Districts Amendments in Article III of the state constitution provide districts shall not be drawn with the intent or result of denying or abridging the equal opportunity of racial or language minorities to participate in the political process or to diminish their ability to elect representatives of their choice. Broadly, this prevents dilution of minority voters through packing or cracking, can require the creation of majority-minority districts in certain instances, and prohibits retrogression. If any of these protections is not respected, the bill would be unconstitutional.
Vote History	Congressional Redistricting:
Floor Vote	Majority vote required.
Related Bills	Compare CS/SB 102.
Amendments	None at this time.