

RESOLUTION

Reform of Redistricting

A RESOLUTION TO: Utilize nonpartisan (or bipartisan) panels to draw congressional districts according to data from the decennial census.

WHEREAS: Current redistricting procedures create districts that discriminate against minorities, create unnatural and disjointed geographical boundaries, and do not allow representatives to truly represent their constituents; and,

WHEREAS: Redistricting by parties in power institutionalize party-line voting and ensures that lawmakers do not face accountability which is demanded in a democracy; and,

WHEREAS: When redistricting occurs at the pleasure of the parties in power, the political center shrinks, compromise (which is the very heart of democracy) is nearly impossible, and independence of thought and action is lost; now, therefore be it,

RESOLVED: That the 11th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature pass a Joint Resolution calling for a constitutional amendment that creates nonpartisan (or bipartisan) panels to redistrict according to established guidelines using data gathered each decennial census.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11th day of September, 2006, by the State Affairs Committee.

Glen Peterson, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12th day of September, 2006, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

Carlos Higgins, Secretary