

April 1, 2003

S 650. INDEP. REDIST. COMM./CONSTITUTIONAL. *TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO ESTABLISH AN INDEPENDENT REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.* Requires referendum in Nov. 2004 on constitutional amendments creating an Independent Redistricting Comm'n to set General Assembly and Congressional districts. If passed, would establish Comm'n as bipartisan body of nine persons appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (2), Governor (3), Speaker of the House (2) and President Pro Tem of the Senate (2). Terms after the initial term would be ten years. Comm'n members would be precluded from holding elective state office for four years before and after service on the Comm'n. Would require that General Assembly districts created by the Comm'n be geographically compact and, to the extent practical, have single-member districts and avoid crossing county boundaries. Comm'n redistricting plans would have the force of law. Requires plans to be created without consideration of political affiliation of voters, voting data from previous elections, the location of incumbents' residences and demographic data other than Census Bureau data. Requires plans to consider all relevant requirements of the U.S. Constitution and federal law. Allows General Assembly to assign to the Comm'n the duty of creating redistricting plans of any county, municipality or other governmental subdivision.

Intro. by Horton, Kinnaird.

Ref. to Judiciary I	GS CONST
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