

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1588 Session of
2019

INTRODUCED BY BOYLE AND EVERETT, JUNE 7, 2019

AS REPORTED FROM COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES, AS AMENDED, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of June 3, 1937 (P.L.1333, No.320), entitled
2 "An act concerning elections, including general, municipal,
3 special and primary elections, the nomination of candidates,
4 primary and election expenses and election contests; creating
5 and defining membership of county boards of elections;
6 imposing duties upon the Secretary of the Commonwealth,
7 courts, county boards of elections, county commissioners;
8 imposing penalties for violation of the act, and codifying,
9 revising and consolidating the laws relating thereto; and
10 repealing certain acts and parts of acts relating to
11 elections," in election districts and polling places, further
12 providing for restrictions on alteration.

13 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
14 hereby enacts as follows:

15 Section 1. Section 536 heading, (a), (b) and (c)
16 introductory paragraph and (1) of the act of June 3, 1937
17 (P.L.1333, No.320), known as the Pennsylvania Election Code, are
18 amended to read:

19 Section 536. Restrictions on [Alteration] Combination.--(a)
20 Except as provided in subsection (b), there shall be no power to
21 establish, abolish, divide, consolidate or alter in any manner
22 an election district during the period [July 15, 2009] from
23 December 31, 2019, through November 30, [2012] 2022, or <--

1 through resolution of all judicial appeals to the [2012] 2022
2 Congressional Redistricting Plan, whichever occurs later.

3 (b) During the period from [July 15, 2009] December ± 31, <--
4 2019, through December 31, [2010, an election district may be
5 divided or] 2020, election districts may be combined if [the
6 following are met:

7 (1) In the case of the division of an election district, the
8 boundary of each resulting district is composed entirely of
9 clearly visible physical features conforming with the census
10 block lines or portions of the original boundary of the election
11 district which was divided.

12 (2) In the case of the combination of election districts,]
13 the boundary of each resulting district is composed entirely of
14 portions of the original boundaries of the election districts
15 which were combined.

16 (c) If [an alteration of an election district] the
17 combination of election districts under subsection (b) is
18 sought, the following shall apply:

19 (1) The county board of elections shall notify the
20 secretary, in writing, of the proposed [alteration] combination.
21 The notice shall include a map and a description of the proposed
22 boundary of [any new or altered district or districts] each
23 district. The secretary shall forward a copy of any notice of a
24 proposed [alteration] combination to the Legislative Data
25 Processing Center within seven (7) days of receipt.

26 * * *

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect immediately.