

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 622

To increase the number of Members of the House of Representatives, and
for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 30, 2023

Mr. BLUMENAUER (for himself and Mr. CASTEN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To increase the number of Members of the House of
Representatives, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Restoring Equal and
5 Accountable Legislators in the House Act” or the “REAL
6 House Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 22 of the Act entitled “An
3 Act to provide for the fifteenth and subsequent decennial
4 census and to provide for apportionment of Representa-
5 tives in Congress”, approved June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a),
6 is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a), by striking “the then ex-
8 isting number of Representatives” and inserting
9 “the applicable number of Representatives deter-
10 mined under subsection (d)”; and

11 (2) by adding at the end the following new sub-
12 section:

13 “(d) DETERMINATION OF APPLICABLE NUMBER OF
14 REPRESENTATIVES.—

15 “(1) INITIAL NUMBER FOR 2030 CENSUS.—In
16 the case of the regular decennial census conducted
17 for 2030, the applicable number of Representatives
18 determined under this subsection is 585.

19 “(2) NUMBER FOR SUBSEQUENT CENSUSES.—
20 In the case of the regular decennial census con-
21 ducted for 2040 and each subsequent regular decen-
22 nial census, the applicable number of Representa-
23 tives determined under this subsection is the number
24 equal to the sum of—

1 “(A) the applicable number of Representa-
2 tives determined under this subsection for the
3 previous regular decennial census; and

4 “(B) the hold harmless number described
5 in paragraph (3),
6 rounded to the nearest odd number.

7 “(3) HOLD HARMLESS NUMBER.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subpara-
9 graph (B), the term ‘hold harmless number’
10 means, with respect to a regular decennial cen-
11 sus, the number of additional Representatives
12 which would be required to ensure that, after
13 the apportionment of the applicable number of
14 Representatives determined under this sub-
15 section for that regular decennial census, the
16 number of Representatives received by each
17 State would not be fewer than the number of
18 Representatives to which that State was enti-
19 tled under the statement required by subsection
20 (a) for the previous decennial census.

21 “(B) LIMIT.—The hold harmless number
22 with respect to a regular decennial census may
23 not exceed 10.”.

24 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Subject to subsection (c), the
25 amendments made by this section shall apply with respect

1 to the regular decennial census conducted for 2030 and
2 each subsequent decennial census.

3 **SEC. 3. STUDY OF FACILITY NEEDS AND LOGISTICAL**
4 **ISSUES.**

5 (a) STUDY RELATING TO EXPANSION OF NUMBER
6 OF MEMBERS.—

7 (1) STUDY.—The Architect of the Capitol, in
8 consultation with the Administrator of General Serv-
9 ices and such other persons as the Architect con-
10 siders appropriate, shall conduct a study of the facil-
11 ity needs and other logistical issues involved in ex-
12 panding the number of Members of the House of
13 Representatives as determined by the regular decen-
14 nial census conducted for 2030, as provided in this
15 Act and the amendments made by this Act.

16 (2) REPORT.—Not later than December 31,
17 2025, the Architect of the Capitol shall submit a re-
18 port to the Speaker of the House of Representatives
19 on the study conducted under paragraph (1), and
20 shall include in the report such recommendations as
21 the Architect considers appropriate.

22 (b) STUDY PRIOR TO EACH SUBSEQUENT REAPPOR-
23 TIONMENT.—

24 (1) STUDY.—After each regular decennial cen-
25 sus, the Architect of the Capitol, in consultation

1 with the Administrator of General Services and such
2 other persons as the Architect considers appropriate,
3 shall conduct a study of the facility needs and other
4 logistical issues involved in setting the number of
5 Members of the House of Representatives, as deter-
6 mined by such census, at the applicable number of
7 Representatives under section 22(d) of the Act enti-
8 tled “An Act to provide for the fifteenth and subse-
9 quent decennial census and to provide for apportion-
10 ment of Representatives in Congress”, approved
11 June 18, 1929 (2 U.S.C. 2a(d)), as amended by this
12 Act.

13 (2) REPORT.—Not later than January 1 of the
14 year immediately preceding the first year of a Con-
15 gress for which the number of Representatives is set
16 at the applicable number of Representatives under
17 section 22(d) of such Act, as determined by the reg-
18 ular decennial census, the Architect of the Capitol
19 shall submit a report to the Speaker of the House
20 of Representatives on the study conducted under
21 paragraph (1), and shall include in the report such
22 recommendations as the Architect considers appro-
23 priate.

24 (3) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This subsection shall
25 apply with respect to the regular decennial census

- 1 conducted for 2030 and each subsequent regular de-
- 2 cennial census.

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