

By the Committee on Reapportionment; and Senators Haridopolos,  
Siplin, and Lawson

598-05119-10

20102288c1

## Senate Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing the creation of Section 20 of Article III of the State Constitution to provide standards for establishing legislative and congressional district boundaries.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the following creation of Section 20 of Article III of the State Constitution is agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

## ARTICLE III

## LEGISLATURE

SECTION 20. Standards for establishing legislative and congressional district boundaries.—In establishing congressional and legislative district boundaries or plans, the state shall apply federal requirements and balance and implement standards in this constitution. The state shall take into consideration the ability of racial and language minorities to participate in the political process and elect candidates of their choice, and communities of interest may be respected and promoted, both without subordination to any other provision of this article. Districts and plans are valid if the balancing and implementation of standards is rationally related to the standards contained in this constitution and is consistent with federal law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be

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30 placed on the ballot:

31                                   CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

32                                   ARTICLE III, SECTION 20

33               STANDARDS FOR LEGISLATURE TO FOLLOW IN LEGISLATIVE AND  
34 CONGRESSIONAL REDISTRICTING.—In establishing congressional and  
35 legislative district boundaries or plans, the state shall apply  
36 federal requirements and balance and implement standards in the  
37 State Constitution. The state shall take into consideration the  
38 ability of racial and language minorities to participate in the  
39 political process and elect candidates of their choice, and  
40 communities of interest may be respected and promoted, both  
41 without subordination to any other provision of Article III of  
42 the State Constitution. Districts and plans are valid if the  
43 balancing and implementation of standards is rationally related  
44 to the standards contained in the State Constitution and is  
45 consistent with federal law.