

One Hundred Second Legislature - First Session - 2011

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB704

Chairperson: Senator Chris Langemeier

Committee: Redistricting

Date of Hearing: May 13, 2011

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 704 changes district boundaries of the Representatives in the Congress of the United States by the adoption of maps by reference.

The state is divided into 3 congressional districts. Article I, section 2, of the US Constitution governs population equality for congressional districts. Specifically, the section provides: "The House of Representatives shall be composed of Members chosen every second Year by the People of the several States. . . . Representatives . . . shall be apportioned among the several States . . . according to their respective numbers." The US Supreme Court has interpreted that provision to mean mathematical equality.

In recognition of that interpretation, proposed congressional district 1 has a population of 608,781; and proposed congressional districts 2 and 3 each have a population of 608,780.

The districts are drawn using census geography and population data from the 2010 US Census.

The maps will be kept on file in the Secretary of State's office.

LB 704 includes an emergency clause.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Chris Langemeier