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Reapportionment Of Senatorial Districts

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INITIATIVE MEASURE TO BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE ELECTORS

The Attorney General has prepared a title and summary of the chief purposes and points of the proposed measure, as follows:

REAPPORTIONMENT OF SENATORIAL DISTRICTS. INITIATIVE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT. Amends Article IV, Section 6 of Constitution. Provides that counties shall have representation in the State Senate in proportion to their population, but that no county shall have more than ten senators. Provides that 1947 session of the legislature shall adjust present districts and reapportion senatorial districts in accordance with the population as shown by the 1940 United States census.

STATE OF CALIFORNIA,
County (or City and County) of..... } ss.

To the Honorable Secretary of State of the State of California:

We, the undersigned, registered and qualified electors of the State of California, residents of the County (or City and County) of....., present to the Secretary of State this petition and hereby propose a measure to read as hereinafter set forth in full and petition that the same be submitted to the electors of the State of California, for their adoption or rejection at the next succeeding general election or as provided by law. Such proposed measure amends Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of California and is as follows:

ARTICLE IV.

Sec. 6. For the purpose of choosing members of the Legislature, the State shall be divided into 40 Senatorial and 80 Assembly districts to be called Senatorial and Assembly districts. Such districts shall be composed of contiguous territory, and Senatorial and Assembly districts shall be as nearly equal in population as may be, provided, however, that no county or city and county shall have more than ten Senatorial districts. Each Senatorial district shall choose one Senator and each Assembly district shall chose one member of Assembly. The Senatorial districts shall be numbered from one to 40, inclusive, in numerical order, and the Assembly districts shall be numbered from one to 80 in the same order, commencing at the northern boundary of the State and ending at the southern boundary thereof. In the formation of Senatorial and Assembly districts no county, or city and county, shall be divided, unless it contains sufficient population within itself to form two or more districts, nor shall a part of any county, or of any city and county, be united with any other county, or city and county, in forming any Assembly or Senatorial district. The census taken under the direction of the Congress of the United States in the year 1940, and every ten years thereafter, shall be the basis of fixing and adjusting the legislative districts; and the Legislature shall, at its 1947 regular session and thereafter at the first regular session following each decennial Federal census, adjust such districts, and reapportion the representation so as to preserve the Senatorial and Assembly districts as nearly equal in population as may be, provided, however, that no county, or city and county, shall have more than ten Senatorial districts. The number of persons shown by the latest decennial Federal census as constituting the population of each county, or city and county, having ten Senatorial districts as above limited, shall be added together and subtracted from the number of persons constituting the total population of this State as shown by such census, and the remainder divided by the number of remaining Senatorial districts after subtracting the number of Senatorial districts in the counties, or cities and counties, having said limited number of ten Senatorial districts; and the factor so arrived at shall be the basis of forming the remaining Senatorial districts as near as may be hereunder. Should the Legislature at the 1947 regular session or at the first regular session following any decennial Federal census fail to reapportion the Assembly and Senatorial districts, a Reapportionment Commission, which is hereby created, consisting of the Lieutenant Governor, who shall be chairman, and the Attorney General, State Controller, Secretary of State and State Superintendent of Public Instruction, shall forthwith apportion such districts in accordance with the provisions of this section and such apportionment of said districts shall be immediately effective the same as if the act of said Reapportionment Commission were an act of the Legislature, subject, however, to the same provisions of referendum as apply to the acts of the Legislature.

Each subsequent reapportionment shall carry out these provisions and shall be based upon the last preceding Federal census. But in making such adjustments no persons who are not eligible to become citizens of the United States, under the naturalization laws, shall be counted as forming a part of the population of any district. Until such districting as herein provided for shall be made, Senators and Assemblymen shall be elected by the districts according to the apportionment now provided for by law.

