

LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PLAN

Based on the 2000 Census

Submitted to the 58th Legislature
By the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission

In Fulfillment of Article V, section 14, of the Montana Constitution and section
5-1-109, MCA

January 6, 2003

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INTRODUCTION

The Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission (Commission) is a fairly unique body. Montana is one of only five states that authorize a citizen-member body to perform the decennial function of congressional and legislative redistricting. The five-member Commission was created by the 1972 Montana Constitution in Article V, section 14, which also provided criteria of population equality and compact and contiguous single-member districts. Senate districts are to be composed of two contiguous house districts. Enabling statutes were enacted by the Legislature and can be found at Title 5, chapter 1, MCA. The Commission was appointed in the 1999 Legislative Session and has been performing its duties since that time. Census data was received in the spring of 2001, and the Commission is submitting the plan in fulfillment of the constitutional and statutory requirement to submit the legislative redistricting plan by the 10th legislative day of the first regular session after the census figures are available. This report provides background and history on the membership of the Commission, congressional apportionment and redistricting, the legislative redistricting process, an analysis of the 2000 population as reported by the U.S. Bureau of the Census, the Commission's criteria and operational guidelines, the Voting Rights Act and Indian-majority districts, and the Legislative Redistricting Plan, presented in the form of district descriptions and maps.

This report was prepared by the Legislative Services Division in support of the Commission as statutorily required. The Legislative Redistricting Plan represents the adoption by a majority of the members. The vote record and minutes of all meetings are available in the Legislative Services Division. The comments in this report represent a staff perspective and are not necessarily the views of the individual Commission members. There are numerous staff reports, and Legislative staff is available upon request for any assistance you may require.

MEMBERSHIP

The Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission was appointed April 1, 1999, during the 1999 Legislature, according to the process set forth in section 5-1-102, MCA.

- Senate Majority Leader John Harp appointed Elaine Sliter, Somers, to represent District 1: Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties.
- House Majority Leader Hal Grinde appointed Jack Rehberg, Billings, to represent District 4: Wheatland, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Treasure, Rosebud, Custer, Prairie, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon, Carter, Powder River, Big Horn, Yellowstone, Carbon, Stillwater, and Sweet Grass Counties.
- Senate Minority Leader Steve Doherty appointed Sheila Rice, Great Falls, to represent District 3: Glacier, Toole, Liberty, Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, Richland, McCone, Garfield, Petroleum, Fergus, Judith Basin, Cascade, Chouteau, Teton, and Pondera Counties.
- House Minority Leader Emily Swanson appointed Joe Lamson, Helena, to represent District 2: Lewis and Clark, Powell, Granite, Deer Lodge, Silver Bow, Jefferson, Broadwater, Meagher, Beaverhead, Madison, Gallatin, and Park Counties .

The four members were unable to select a presiding officer, and the appointment was turned over to the Montana Supreme Court as provided for in the Montana Constitution. Janine Pease Pretty On Top, Lodge Grass, was appointed on August 3, 1999, as Presiding Officer by a unanimous decision of the Montana Supreme Court.

Elaine Sliter, originally appointed to the Commission in 1999, resigned from the Commission to accept an appointment to fill the legislative seat vacated by the death of her husband, Representative Paul Sliter. Her resignation became effective on September 7, 2001. Senator Fred Thomas, Senate Majority Leader, appointed Gregory D. Barkus, of Kalispell, on October 11, 2001, as her replacement to represent District 1.

Greg Barkus resigned from the Commission effective April 1, 2002, to run for the Montana Senate in Senate District 39. Senator Fred Thomas appointed Dean Jellison, of Kalispell, as his replacement for District 1.

CONGRESSIONAL APPORTIONMENT AND REDISTRICTING

On January 16, 2002, the Clerk of the House of Representatives of the United States, Jeff Trandahl, certified that the state of Montana is entitled to one representative in the House of Representatives of the Congress of the United States in the One Hundred Eighth Congress and each Congress thereafter until a subsequent reapportionment.

On March 21, 2001, the Montana Legislative Services Division received the P.L. 94-171 final population census data, which triggered the 90-day period within which the Commission must develop and file a final congressional plan pursuant to Article V, section 14, of the Montana Constitution. The Commission held a public hearing on the congressional redistricting plan on April 18, 2001, as required pursuant to section 5-1-108, MCA.

On April 18, 2001, the Commission filed a one-district congressional plan for the State of Montana with Secretary of State, Bob Brown.

LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PROCESS

For each multicounty region of the state, the staff research analyst for the Commission made a preliminary visit to meet with the County Clerk and Recorders, political party central committee representatives, area legislators, tribal leaders, and interested persons. The purpose of the visits was to share the criteria, population data, and redistricting possibilities and to receive comments. Following the staff visit, the research analyst developed between two and four plans for each region, applying the ideas gathered from the area and the Commission's criteria. A plan for each region was also submitted by two of the Commissioners, Sheila Rice and Joe Lamson.

Once the plans were developed or submitted, the research analyst prepared maps and written descriptions, including population figures, of the proposed districts for each plan.. These packets of information were sent to the Commission members, County Clerk and Recorders, political party central committees, County Commissioners, tribal leaders, legislators, and the individuals that had participated in the staff visits. To encourage public participation, the information was mailed 10 days to 2 weeks prior to the public hearing.

The Commission held six organizational meetings to select a presiding officer, receive background information, adopt criteria, and receive information on the Old Person v. Brown litigation. Fourteen regional public hearings were held between November 2001 and August 2002 to receive public testimony on the proposals. Hearing sites were Great Falls, Browning, Havre, Glasgow, Miles City, Lewistown, Crow Agency, Billings, Bozeman, Butte, Helena, Kalispell, Pablo, and Missoula. Following each public hearing, the Commission accepted written testimony for approximately 2 to 3 weeks, considered proposed amendments, and tentatively adopted a plan for each region during an executive session. The Commission held six executive sessions to adopt regional plans, some in concert with the public hearings.

Upon completion of the 14 public hearings and the tentative adoption of the regional plans, the Commission held a November 19, 2002, meeting after the 2002 election in order that the newly elected holdover Senators could provide input to the Commissioners regarding desired pairings of the House Districts to form new Senate Districts. The 25 holdover Senators are elected in 2002 and will serve during the transition to the new districting system. They will serve the first two years of their term in the district from which they were elected and the last 2 years of the

term in the district to which they were appointed. The remaining 25 senators will have new districts from which to choose to run in 2004.

The statutorily required public hearing on all 100 House Districts and 50 Senate Districts was held December 6, 2002. The Commission finalized and its plan is submitting it to the Legislature, as required, by the 10th legislative day of the 58th Legislature. The Legislature has 30 days in which to make recommendations and upon the return of the recommendations, the Commission has 30 days to finalize the plan and submit it to the Secretary of State, at which time it becomes law and the Commission is dissolved.

2000 POPULATION ANALYSIS

The 2000 Decennial Census by the U.S. Census Bureau determined that there were 902,195 persons in the state of Montana. This is an increase from the 1990 Census of 103,310 or 12.91% increase over the 10 years¹. This compares to a mere 1.6% increase of 12, 275 persons between 1980 and 1990².

The most immediate impact of this information was the continuation of Montana being the largest of the seven states that have a single congressional representative. As the population of the United States was apportioned among the 50 states, Montana was 8,168 persons shy of receiving back the second district that was lost following the 1990 Census³.

The redistricting data that the U.S. Census Bureau is required to provide to states for legislative redistricting contains population data by race and by voting age at various census levels, the county level, and statewide. The data received was the unadjusted official Census data for redistricting (P.L. 94-171). The predominant racial minority in Montana falls under the race category "American Indian and Alaska Native". In the 1990 Census, 47,679 persons were listed under this category, about 6% of the total population. Because of the ability to report race in more than one category in the 2000 Census, direct comparisons are difficult; however, a minimum-maximum range is reported.

In the single race "American Indian and Alaska Native alone" category, 56,068 persons, or 6.21% of the total population, were reported, a 17.6% increase. If all of the categories that contain "American Indian and Alaska Native" in combination with one or more of the other five race categories listed is reported, 66,320 persons, or 7.32% of the total population, were reported, a 39.1% increase over 1990. Under either method, the American Indian and Alaska Native population gained significant population, higher than the statewide average. In keeping with national gains, the Hispanic or Latino population increased 48.5% from 12,174 in 1990 to 18,081 in 2000.

¹ CEIC website, U.S. Census Bureau, 3/21/01.

² Gomez, T., "Changes in Montana Population: Summary and Analysis", Montana Legislative Council, October 1991.

³ EDS, Inc. Final Apportionment Study, 12/28/00.

Some of the population increase can be attributed to natural population growth, but a portion must be attributed to a better count. In the 1990 Census, the undercount for the nation was estimated at 1.6%, although not evenly distributed⁴. For the 2000 Census, the undercount is estimated to be 1.18% nationally, 1.57% for the total population in Montana and 1.93% for children under 18 years of age.⁵

Census data counts all persons, regardless of age, for legislative redistricting. However, for purposes of ensuring that minority voters have the same opportunity to elect persons of their choice, it is important to acknowledge that minority population is on the average younger, and redistricting may require a greater percentage of minorities to achieve a majority of minority voters in a district. Montana's total percentage of the population 18 years of age and older is 75.9%, and the American Indian and Alaska Native population's percentage of population over 18 years of age is 60.6%. For the purposes of redistricting, in order for a district to be considered an Indian-majority district, it had to be over 50% American Indian or Alaska Native of the voting age population. American Indian population percentages were reported for any district that was composed of more than 10% American Indian.

The population growth of 12.91% in Montana was not equally distributed. Five counties were responsible for 74% of the growth and 23 counties experienced actual population loss. This resulted in losing two house districts along the Hi-Line, one in northcentral Montana and one in northeastern Montana north of the Missouri River. An additional house district was lost in southeastern Montana. The population loss in the east was coupled with dramatic population gains in the southwest and western parts of Montana. Additional house districts were gained in Gallatin and Ravalli Counties and in the area between Missoula and Flathead Counties.

⁴Electronic document distributed through the State Data Center Program (11/9/98). From Rainey, Joan. "Apportionment of the U.S. House of Representatives: Will Indiana lose a seat after the 2000 census?", Indiana Business Review.

⁵ Report of the Executive Steering Committee for Accuracy and Coverage Evaluation Policy, March 1, 2001, U.S. Census Bureau.

CRITERIA AND OPERATIONAL GUIDELINES FOR LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING

The 1980 Commission adopted five criteria for legislative districts in addition to constitutional mandates. The criteria addressed governmental boundaries, geographic boundaries, communities of interest, consideration of existing district boundaries, and a goal of a plus or minus 5% deviation from the ideal district population. A federal District Court upheld the 1983 plan drawn under these criteria, acknowledging that the Commission must balance conflicts between the criteria in arriving at a plan that embraced the entire state. The 1990 Commission defined and adopted similar criteria for the 1993 legislative redistricting effort. Its plan has been upheld using similar criteria twice, to date, by the Ninth Circuit Federal Appeals Court in the Old Person v. Brown litigation (still pending).

The current Commission made some slight changes to the criteria. They did not adopt the preservation of existing districts as a criterion by a 3-2 vote. The remainder of the criteria were adopted unanimously. The Commission decided to begin redistricting in northcentral Montana between the area under litigation in the Old Person case and Great Falls. The Commission adopted the criteria at two separate meetings, on November 16, 2000, and April 18, 2001.

Mandatory Criteria for Legislative Districts

- 1. Population equality and maximum population deviation.** All legislative districts must be as nearly equal in population as is practicable within a maximum deviation of no more than plus or minus 5% from the ideal population⁶ of 9,022 persons. (U. S. and Montana Constitutions and U.S. Supreme Court decisions)

⁶ Under the equal protection clause of the 14th amendment to the United States Constitution, districts for state Legislatures must adhere to the "one person, one vote" principle of equality, though to a lesser standard than for congressional districts. A series of U.S. Supreme Court decisions established a 10% *de minimis* rule under which persons challenging a plan have the burden of proof if the overall range is 10% or less and the state has the burden of proof if the overall range is above 10%. Exceptions to this standard include Mahan v. Howell, 410 U.S. 315 (1973) in which a 16.4% deviation was allowed, based on an attempt to preserve political subdivision boundaries. Additionally, the 1983 reapportionment plan for Montana, with a 10.94% overall deviation in House districts and a 10.18% overall deviation in Senate districts, was upheld by a federal District Court in McBride v. Mahoney, 573 F. Supp. 913, 40 St. Rep. 1907 (D.C. Mont. 1983).

2. **Compact and contiguous districts.** Each district shall consist of a compact and contiguous territory. The Commission will use a general appearance test regarding compactness and consider its functional compactness in terms of travel and transportation, communication, and geography. (Montana Constitution)
3. **Protection of minority voting rights and compliance with the Voting Rights Act.** No district, plan, or proposal for a plan is acceptable if it affords members of a racial or language minority group "less opportunity than other members of the electorate to participate in the political process and to elect representatives of their choice". (U.S. Constitution and 42 U.S.C. 1973)
4. **Race cannot be the predominant factor to which the traditional discretionary criteria are subordinated.** (Shaw v. Reno, 509 U.S. 630 (1993))

Discretionary Criteria for Legislative Districts

1. **Following the lines of political units.** The Commission will consider the boundary lines of counties, cities, towns, school districts, Indian reservations, voting precincts, and other political units to the extent that they are reflected in the geographical database. If the lines do not follow lines in the geographical database, they can provide guidance.
2. **Following geographic boundaries.** Districts lines will be drawn as provided in the TIGER/Line files of the U.S. Bureau of the Census.
3. **Keeping communities of interest intact.** The Commission will consider keeping communities of interest intact. Communities of interest can be based on trade areas, geographic location, communication and transportation networks, media markets, Indian reservations, urban and rural interests, social, cultural, and economic interests, or occupations and lifestyles.

Operational Guidelines

1. The Commission will use the P.L. 94-171 data set (unadjusted population figures) distributed by the Bureau of the Census.
2. The operational guideline based on the OMB Bulletin No. 00-02 is adopted as an initial approach with which to analyze the Census data. Initial aggregation would result in a person being counted in one of the five single-race categories, one of the four double-race categories, any other combination that represents more than 1% of the population in a jurisdiction, or the balance of individuals reporting more than one race.

For any category of responses for more than one race that falls beneath 1%, the allocation guideline would be applied:

- (1) if the category combines responses including one minority race and White, the responses would be allocated to the minority race; or
- (2) if there are responses that include two or more minority races, the Commission would analyze the patterns based on alternative allocations to each of the minority groups.

3. The Commission will begin its redistricting in Glacier County (and adjacent Flathead and Lake Counties, as necessary) and to proceed in a clockwise motion throughout the state. The Commission will proceed along the Hi-Line, including Cascade County, to Eastern Montana. Following the completion of Eastern Montana, proceed west through Southcentral Montana, then north through the western third of the state. Flathead and Lake Counties will be contacted initially in the development of districts with Glacier and Pondera Counties that reflect concerns raised in the Old Person lawsuit, but the remainder of the districts in the counties will not be drawn until the final third of the state is considered next spring.

THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT AND INDIAN-MAJORITY DISTRICTS

Old Person v. Cooney/Brown

A challenge to the 1993 Districting and Apportionment Plan was filed January 12, 1996, in United States District Court for the District of Montana, Great Falls Division. Earl Old Person v. Cooney, Civ. No. CV-96-0040GF-PGH. The case went to trial in federal District Court in Great Falls on March 16, 1998.

A decision was rendered on October 28, 1998. The Court found that the 1990 Commission did not discriminate against Montana Indians and that the 1992 districting plan did not have the effect of discriminating against Montana's Indians. The Court held that the plaintiffs had not proven that non-Indians usually vote as a bloc to defeat Indian-preferred candidates. It found that most Indians vote as Democrats and that in many areas of the state and in many elections the preferred candidates win. Thus, it could not find that the Indians in Montana have less than equal access to the electoral process than do non-Indians.

The Court noted that the Voting Rights Act is not a guarantee for minorities to have candidates elected in equal proportion to their percentage in the population, but rather that it guarantees that minorities must have an equal opportunity to elect candidates of their choice.

An appeal was filed on March 8, 1999, by the ACLU on the claims involving the Blackfeet and Flathead Indian Reservations area of the state. On August 9, 1999, a three-judge 9th Circuit Court panel heard oral arguments on the challenge.

On October 27, 2000, the panel rendered its decision on Old Person v. Cooney (No. 98-36157), that Montana's 1992 redistricting plan was not adopted with discriminating purposes in violation of 42 U.S.C. 1973. However, the District Court erred in its application of the third test of Thornburg v. Gingles, 478 U.S. 30 (1986), in its finding that the white bloc voting was not legally significant. The District Court also erred in finding proportionality between the number of legislative districts in which American Indians constituted an effective majority and the American Indian share of the voting population within the state. These errors in combination may

have affected the District Courts final ruling that there was no dilution of American Indian voting strength. The case was remanded back to federal District Court.

On November 29, 2000, the plaintiffs submitted a motion for entry of judgment, to enjoin as parties the 2000 Districting and Apportionment Commission members, and for appropriate relief by the next election in 2002. (The 2000 legislative redistricting plan will not be in effect until the 2004 election.) The state entered its opposition to the plaintiffs' motion for entry of judgment, joinder of the 2000 Commission, and implementation of remedy on December 18, 2000.

In April 2002, the Attorney General, Mike McGrath, brought the issue of joining into the litigation to the 2000 Commission and asked the Commission to join the litigation in an attempt to settle the case. In a conference call in May of 2002, the Commission declined to become a party to the litigation but adopted Resolution #1 commending the parties for their attempt to settle the case and resolved to create an additional Indian-majority House District and an additional Indian-majority Senate District in the region of Montana that was the subject of the lawsuit, the Blackfeet and Flathead Indian Reservation areas.

In June 2001, U.S. District Judge Phillip M. Pro of Las Vegas was appointed to the case to replace Judge Paul Hatfield who had died since rendering his decision. In an order dated July 2, 2001, the plaintiffs' motion for entry of judgment on remand and implementation of a remedy was denied, the motion to enjoin the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission as a party was denied, and a trial date of Monday, November 5, 2001, was set to "consider evidence pertaining strictly to the issue remanded by the Ninth Circuit [C]ourt of Appeals relating to the trial court's previous finding of proportionality and whether considering the totality of circumstances, American Indian voting strength was diluted by the 1992 Redistricting Plan"

Judge Phillip Pro rendered his decision on Old Person v. Brown on January 24, 2002. His decision favored the state and found that no vote dilution had been demonstrated in the Flathead and Blackfeet Reservation districts that were created in the 1990 Redistricting Plan. The plaintiffs appealed the decision on February 4, 2002. Oral argument before the United States Court of Appeals Ninth Circuit was held on August 7, 2002.

The state prevailed in a unanimous Circuit Court opinion filed December 4, 2002. The Court concluded that the "district court did not clearly err in determining that the totality of circumstances did not establish vote dilution in the districts where plaintiffs resided" and affirmed Judge Pro's District Court decision. The following week, the ACLU petitioned for a rehearing by the full Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. The court case may be moot for the purposes of a remedy, but the legal principles and the court costs remain at issue.

Had the plaintiffs prevailed at any point in the litigation, a remedy may have included a redistricting of the districts. The 2000 Commission chose to redistrict in a manner that had been proposed by the plaintiffs. The 2000 Commission further increased the number of Indian-majority districts in order to provide a greater opportunity for persons in those districts to participate in the electoral process and elect a person of their choice. This was accomplished by creating districts of over 50% American Indian voting age population where the population was geographically compact and sufficient in number.

Indian-Majority Districts and Representation

The 1990 plan contained five Indian-majority house districts and one Indian-majority senate district:

- House Districts 5 and 6 and Senate District 3 containing the portions of the Crow and Northern Cheyenne Indian Reservations.
- House District 85 containing portions of the Blackfeet Reservation.
- House District 92 containing the Rocky Boy and Fort Belknap Indian Reservations.
- House District 98 containing portions of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation.

Prior to 2002, House District 92 elected a Democrat who may be considered an Indian-preferred candidate. The remainder of the districts had successful American Indian candidates throughout the decade. In addition, a district that could be considered a minority influence district, House District 73, had successfully elected an American Indian representative, Representative Joey Jayne, in the 2000 and 2002 elections. In 2002, House District 92 elected Representative Jonathan Windy Boy and for the 2003 Legislature, there will be six American Indian Representatives and one American Indian Senator.

Based on the 2000 census data, the Commission was able to maintain the existing number of districts, although the districts were changed in configuration. The 2000 plan contains 6 Indian-majority house districts and three Indian-majority senate districts:

- House District 1 (new majority district) and House District 2 combine into Senate District 1 (new majority district) and include parts of the Flathead Indian Reservation and the Blackfeet Reservation. House District 2 (HD 85) is an existing Indian-majority district on the Blackfeet Reservation.
- House District 18 (existing majority district, HD 92) includes the Rocky Boy Indian Reservation of the Chippewa Cree Tribe and the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation. House District 18 is combined with House District 22 (existing majority district, HD 98) into Senate District 9 (new majority district). House District 22 has a portion of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, which includes the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes.
- House District 29 includes the Northern Cheyenne and Crow Tribes and Reservations and is combined with House District 30, which includes the Crow Tribe and Reservation for Senate District 14. (The three districts are all existing majority districts, HD 5, HD 6, and SD 3).

LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PLAN⁷

Adopted December 6, 2002

Total Plan Data on Proposed House Districts

Number of House Districts: 100

Mean Deviation: 316 persons, 3.50%

Largest Negative (Minimum) Deviation: -440 persons, -4.88%

Largest Positive (Maximum) Deviation: 449 persons, 4.98%

Overall Range in Deviation: 9.85% (889 persons)

This document is organized first, by region in the order in which the Commission considered the proposed house districts, and second, by the pairing of the adopted House Districts into Senate Districts and the assignment of the holdover Senators. The district descriptions have been updated and include any amendments made throughout the process.

Regional Plans

Northcentral Region

Glacier, Pondera, Teton, Toole, Liberty, and Cascade Counties

Adopted March 27, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, for this region. The amendments that the Commission adopted affect House Districts 2, 3, 5, 12, 13. The Commission adopted this region as its starting point. The Commission also adopted Resolution #1 that directed the development of an additional American Indian-majority House District that can later be paired to create an additional American Indian-majority Senate District within its adopted criteria and population requirements. This plan includes an existing American Indian-majority House District (House District 2) to be paired with an additional American Indian-majority House District (House District 1) that is included in the proposed Northcentral Region plans; however, it will be

⁷ The adopted plan is subject to change until the plan is submitted to the Secretary of State in February or March 2003.

adopted with the Western region since it includes portions of Flathead and Lake Counties. The boundary in Lewis and Clark and Powell Counties for remainder of House District 4 was adopted in the Southwest Region. The boundary in Chouteau County for House District 14 was amended and adopted with the Southeast and Central Regions.

House District #	2000 Total Population	Percentage Deviation from Ideal Population	1990 House District(s)
3	9,176	1.71	88,86,85
5	9,401	4.20	47,87
6	9,436	4.59	49,50,87
7	9,096	0.82	40,41,43,50,93
8	8,598	-4.70	43,44,46
9	8,770	-2.79	42,43,44,46
10	8,656	-4.06	42,45,46
11	8,618	-4.48	45,46,47
12	8,791	-2.56	47,48
13	8,991	-0.34	42,46,47

House District 1 was adopted and House District 2 was amended in the Western Region. See updated description in the Western Region.

House District 3 contains Pondera, Toole, and Glacier Counties. The Pondera County portion includes all of the county with the exception of the westernmost portion of the Blackfeet Reservation and the Glacier National Park portion. The Valier School District/Precinct 35 portion is included in House District 3. The Toole County portion includes the area south of Highway 2 but does not include any portion of the city limits of Shelby. House District 3 contains all of Cut Bank using the city limit boundaries and all of the area south of Highway 2 east of Cut Bank and east of Cut Bank Creek.

House District 4 contains all of Teton County. To make up the remainder of the district's population, approximately 2,500 persons will be needed from Lewis and Clark County. This district will be adopted with the Southwest Region. See the Southwest Region for description.

House District 5 is wholly in Cascade County. It includes the area north of Highway 89 from the Teton County line to the Sun River, north of the Sun River to the Missouri River. North of I-15 and east of Watson Coulee is in this district, and following north includes the area west of Vineyard and west of Bootlegger Trail. In Great Falls, the area south of Northwest Bypass to the Missouri River is included.

House District 6 includes the area south of Highway 89, Highway 200, and the Sun River west of Great Falls, near Great Falls it includes the area west and north of the Missouri River. The southern boundary is north of (and not including) Ulm, west to the Highway 200 about 5 miles south of Simms.

House District 7 includes the southern two-thirds of and is wholly within Cascade County. The northwestern boundary is the area south of House District 6 and includes Ulm across and south of the Missouri River. East of the Missouri River, House District 7 follows the Great Falls southern city limits to 10th Ave. S. at about 50th St. S. The boundary follows the Malmstrom Air Force Base boundary on the south, east, and north to 67th St. The northern boundary then follows the Missouri River to the county line. House District 7 includes Ulm, Cascade, Eden, Sand Coulee, Stockett, Tracy, Belt, Monarch, and Neihart.

House District 8 is within and north of the Great Falls southern city limit boundary east of the Missouri River and south of 10th Ave. S. It also includes a portion south of 6th Ave. S. between 4th and 10th St. S.

House District 9 is north of 10th Ave. S. and south of 4th Ave. S. between 10th St. S. and 36th St. S. and south of 3rd Ave. S. between 36th St. S. and Malmstrom AFB.

House District 10 is north of 10th Ave. S. east of the Missouri River and west of 4th St. S., north of 6th Ave. S. between 4th St. S. and 10th St. S., north of 4th Ave. S. between 10th St. S. and 36th St. S. and north of 3rd Ave. S. to 63rd St. S. The northern boundary is 1st Ave. N. from the

River to Park Dr. and 2nd Ave. N. east to 26th St. N. and 3rd Ave. N. to 36th St. N. The northern boundary returns to 2nd Ave. N. east to 63rd St., which is the eastern boundary.

House District 11 is north of the 1st Ave. N. bridge, north of 2nd Ave. N. east to 26th St. N. and 3rd Ave. N. to 36th St. N. The eastern boundary is 36th St. N. The northern boundary is from the Missouri River on 6th Ave. N., 8th Ave. N. to 18th St. N., and 9th Ave. N. to 36th St. N.

House District 12 is bounded by Watson Coulee, Vineyard, and Bootlegger Trail on the west, north to the Chouteau County line. On the south the boundary is I-15 east of Watson Coulee to the Vaughn Road to Northwest Bypass to the Missouri River. The eastern boundary is the Old Havre Highway until it joins Highway 87, which is the boundary north to the Chouteau County line.

House District 13 includes the area east of the Old Havre Highway to Highway 87. It includes Black Eagle and east of the Missouri River north of 6th, and from 8th Ave. N. to 18th St. N., and 9th Ave. N. to 36th St. N. It includes the area east of 36th St. N. north of 2nd Ave. N., east of 63rd including Malmstrom AFB. It includes the area west of 67th and north of the Missouri River west to Highway 87 within northern Cascade County.

House District 14 was amended in the Central Region. Please refer to the Central Region for this district description.

Northeast Region

Hill, Blaine, Phillips, Valley, Daniels, Sheridan, Roosevelt, and Richland (part) Counties

Adopted March 27, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, for this region. The amendments that the Commission adopted affect House Districts 17, 18, 21, and 22.

House District #	2000 Total Population	Percentage Deviation from Ideal Population	1990 House District(s)
15	8,614	-4.52	90,91
16	8,640	-4.23	91,92,90
17	9,431	4.53	95,96
18	9,017	-0.05	92,95
22	9,464	4.90	96,98

House District #	2000 Native American Total Population Percentage	2000 Native American Voting Age Population %	1990 Predominant House District	1990 Native American Total Population %	1990 Native American Voting Age Population %
16	13.18	10.83	91	8.76	6.83
18	62.80	55.76	92	58.82	52.37
22	67.32	59.56	98	61.11	55.23

House District 15 includes western Hill County south of the Milk River and the Fresno Reservoir, and north of Highway 87. However, it does not include any of the Rocky Boy Reservation or trust lands that are west of Highway 87. Within Havre, it includes the area north of the (2000) city limits and west of 8th Ave. north to 18th St., west of 7th Ave. north to 13th St.,

west of 6th Ave. and north of 6th St., west of 10th Ave. north to 1st St. and west of 7th Ave. north to the Milk River.

House District 16 includes the Hill County portion north of the Milk River and Highway 2. In Havre, its western boundary includes the area east of 7th Ave. and north of 18th St., east of 7th Ave. north to 13th St., east of 6th Ave. and south of 6th St., east of 10th Ave., north of 1st St. and east of 7th Ave. north to the Milk River. It includes the area between Clear Creek and County Road 802 southeast of Havre. This district includes the area west of 24th Ave. north of County Road 451 to Highway 2. House District 16 includes northern Blaine County, north of Highway 2, but including the city limits of Chinook and Harlem. Where the Milk River intersects Highway 2 at Fort Belknap Agency, the boundary follows the Milk River east to the county line corresponding to the northeastern boundary of the Fort Belknap Reservation.

House District 17 includes northern Phillips County using Highway 2 as the boundary, except it follows south around the city limits of Dodson, south around Malta (greater than the city limits), and south around the Saco city limits. It includes Dodson, Malta, and Saco. It includes Valley County north of Highway 2 until west of Glasgow, including Hinsdale. The boundary follows the Cherry Creek Overflow to the BN Railroad tracks east to the Glasgow city limits to state Highway 42 south then following the Milk River east to Nashua. Glasgow and Nashua are in House District 17. East of Nashua, the district includes north of Highway 2 to the Valley County line.

House District 18 in Hill County includes the Rocky Boy Reservation, including any reservation or trust lands immediately west of Highway 87. It includes the area north of the Rocky Boy Reservation and east of Highway 87, the area south of Havre city limits and County Road 802, the area south of County Road 451, and the area south of Highway 2 east of Havre. It includes the area south of Highway 2 in Blaine County, including all of the Fort Belknap Reservation, not including Chinook or Harlem. It also includes southern Phillips County using Highway 2 and the southern city limits of Dodson and Saco and not including an area slightly greater than the Malta city limits. It includes southwestern Valley County south of Highway 2, the Cherry Creek Overflow east of Glasgow, the Glasgow city limits, Highway 42, and Highway 24. This district does not contain Glasgow or Ft. Peck.

House Districts 19 and 20 are included with the Central Region.

House District 21 is included with the Southeast Region.

House District 22 includes Ft. Peck, Frazer, Oswego, and the area east of Highway 24 and south of the Milk River to south of Nashua and east of Nashua south of Highway 2 in Valley County. This district includes Wolf Point and a portion outside of the Wolf Point city limits from Highway 250 to Dry Forks, Poplar, and an area approximately 6 miles north of Highway 2 from 6 miles west of Poplar to the Big Muddy Creek, including Brockton to the eastern Fort Peck Reservation boundary.

Central Region

Chouteau, Judith Basin, Fergus, and Petroleum Counties

Adopted May 1, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300B for this region, which is the plan that split Lewistown and joins the western half with the southeastern half of Chouteau County, northwestern Fergus County, and Judith Basin County to provide a more compact district to the east.

The district numbers in the proposed Plan 300B Central Region were not consistent with the numbers in Plan 300 Northcentral or Northeast Region. When the Commission adopted this region, the district numbering was made consistent and the final plan overview should be referred to for all district descriptions. (See final column for translation between proposed plan 300 and the tentatively adopted final plan district numbers.)

House District #	2000 Total Population	Percentage Deviation from Ideal Population	1990 House District(s)	Plan 300B Central Region House District #
14	9,401	4.20	47,89	5
19	9,386	4.04	89,94	22 B (20NC)
20	9,466	4.92	93,94,99	21B (19NC)

Native Americans comprise less than 2% of the total population in any of these Central Region districts.

House District 14 includes half of Chouteau County north and west of the Missouri River until Virgelle, at which time the district boundary goes due north to Highway 87 (3,428 persons). It includes all of Liberty County and Toole County north of Highway 2 and east of I-15 (3,815 persons). It includes Shelby and the private prison facility in Toole County and the communities of Fort Benton, Big Sandy, Carter, and Loma from Chouteau County. It includes an area south of the Missouri River for an area 15 miles around Fort Benton.

House District 19 includes the northwestern portion of Fergus County (5,379 persons), including a portion of Lewistown north of Highway 87 and Main St. and west of Highway 191 and 1st. It also includes Judith Basin County in its entirety and half of Chouteau County (1,678) south and east of the Missouri River to Virgelle, where the district boundary goes due north to Highway 87. This district includes less area south of the Missouri River for an area 15 miles around Fort Benton that was placed in House District 14.

House District 20 includes southeastern Fergus County (654 persons), including a portion of Lewistown. The boundary in Lewistown is, from the north, Highway 191 to 1st and Main, then east on Main to Highway 87. It includes Petroleum and Garfield Counties in their entirety and McCone County (1,180 persons), not including Circle. The boundary is Highway 200 on either side of Circle from Stoney Butte/Highway 253 to the Dawson County line. The immediate area inside Brockton is in House District 20. The boundary follows the Circle census designated place boundaries (city limits) skirting Circle to the north. Circle is in House District 25 in the Southeast Region.

Southeast Region

Garfield, McCone, Richland, Dawson, Prairie, Wibaux, Rosebud, Custer, Fallon, Carter,
Powder River, Big Horn, and Treasure Counties

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, for this region. Amendments were adopted for the Custer County and Miles City area, and Powder River, Rosebud, Treasure, and Big Horn Counties.

This plan enhances the American Indian Voting Age percentages in what are current House Districts 5 and 6. This plan used population from Powder River and Yellowstone Counties to add necessary population for Indian-majority districts.

The district numbers in the proposed Plan 300 Southeast Region were not consistent with the numbers in Plan 300 Northcentral or Northeast Region. When the Commission adopted this region, the district numbering was made consistent and the final plan overview should be referred to for all district descriptions. (See final column for translation between proposed plan 300 and the tentatively adopted final plan district numbers.)

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)	Plan 300 Southeast Region House District #s
21	9,222	2.22	96,97,99	23
23	9,453	4.78	99,100	25
24	9,146	1.37	1,2	26
25	9,222	2.22	1,2,3,99	27
26	9,396	4.15	3,4	28
27	9,196	1.93	3,7,8,	30
28	9,437	4.60	3,5,6,7	29
29	8,586	-4.83	1,5,6,	32

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)	Plan 300 Southeast Region House District #s
30	8,580	-4.90	6,16	33

House District #	2000 Native American Total Population %	2000 Native American Voting Age Population %	1990 Predominant House District	1990 Native American Total Population %	1990 Native American Voting Age Population %
29	65.04	57.30	5	56.72	49.74
30	61.36	55.20	6	59.75	53.00

House District 21 (same as Northeast Region Plan 300 - Revised Proposed House District 21) includes Daniels, Sheridan, and parts of Roosevelt and Richland Counties. The Roosevelt County portion (2,278 persons) includes most of the area north of Highway 2, excluding the Wolf Point city limits and some additional area immediately west of Wolf Point, Poplar, and an area approximately 6 miles north of Highway 2 around Poplar. This district contains a portion (approximately 824 persons) of northern Richland County but does not include any of Fairview, Lambert, or Sidney. The southern boundary is Highway 200 east of Sidney, the existing HD 100 boundary around Sidney between Highway 16 and Highway 200 and east of Highway 16 about 17 miles north of Sidney.

House District 23 contains portions of Richland (8,843 persons) and Dawson (610 persons) Counties. Richland County includes Sidney, Fairview, Lambert, and Savage. All of current HD 100 is included in this district with all that is south of Highway 200 and all that is east of Highway 16 to about 17 miles north of Sidney in Richland County.

House District 24 contains portions of Dawson County (8,068 persons) and all of Wibaux County. The Dawson County portion includes everything east of I-94 and everything east and north of Highway 200. All of Glendive is in this district.

House District 25 contains Fallon, Carter, and Prairie Counties in their entirety and parts of McCone, Dawson, Custer, and Powder River Counties. It contains a portion of McCone County (797 persons) including Circle and everything south of Highway 200 west to Brockton. Brockton is not in this district (in House District 20), but the boundary uses the county road south of Brockton. The Dawson County portion (371 persons) includes everything south of Highway 200 that is west of I-94 (not including any of Glendive). The Custer County portion (1,121 persons) includes south of the I-94 business loop east of Haynes and east of Highway 59. South of Miles City and I-94, the district includes the area east of the city limits and Highway 59 about 10 miles and then is east of the Tongue River south to the Powder River County line. Powder River County (1,537 persons) includes east of Big Pumpkin Creek Road and the Sonnette Road south to and including all of Precinct 7.

House District 26 includes Miles City. It includes all of the city limits and the area south of the Yellowstone River between it and the city limits. It also includes additional area east of the city limits to Haynes and south of the city limits west to the Tongue River. The area south of I-94 and east of Highway 59 includes all of the city limits.

House District 27 includes portions of Custer, Rosebud, and Yellowstone Counties and all of Musselshell County. This district includes the northwestern corner of Custer County, north of Miles City and I-94 (1,000 persons). It includes the northern third of Rosebud County (954 persons and not including Forsyth), a mid-portion of Yellowstone County east of Highway 87 and an area north of the Yellowstone River, including Shepherd (2,745 persons).

House District 28 includes portions of Custer, Rosebud, and Yellowstone Counties and all of Treasure County. The Custer County portion is south of I-94 and west of the Tongue River (179 persons). The Rosebud County portion (4,789 persons) is the central third including Colstrip and the Forsyth area (south of the Yellowstone River about 10 miles east of Forsyth and including Forsyth). In Yellowstone County (3,608 persons) it includes the eastern half from Huntley Project east. The boundary is generally north of the Yellowstone River from Pompey's Pillar to the county line.

House District 29 includes portions of Powder River, Rosebud, and Big Horn Counties. In Powder River County it includes the area west of the Big Pumpkin Creek Road and the Sonnette Road south to the precinct 7 line (321 persons), not including Broadus. In Rosebud County

(3,640 persons) it includes an area south of Colstrip, south of Castle Rock Creek west of Highway 39 and to the east of Highway 39 south of Cow Creek Road and east of Rosebud Creek. At Rosebud Creek, the boundary intersects and becomes the Rosebud Elementary School District line. This district includes the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, Ashland, Birney, Lama Deer, Muddy, Busby, and a portion of Hardin. In Big Horn County (4,625 persons), it includes the eastern portion of the Crow Reservation. In Big Horn County, the northern boundary is the Big Horn County line and the eastern boundary is I-90 north of Hardin and between Jct. 212 and the Little Big Horn River. The boundary is a county road east of Crow Agency, Lodge Grass Creek further south, and the Wyola Elementary School District line. Wyola is in House District 29.

House District 30 includes the remainder of the Crow Reservation and a portion of Hardin in Big Horn County including Lodge Grass, Crow Agency, St. Xavier, and Pryor (8,046 persons). It also includes the Crow Reservation portion of Yellowstone County and an area north of that boundary that includes south of the Yellowstone River on the western county line, including much of the South School District, south of the Hillcrest and Vandermeer Roads, and south of Blue Creek and Bender Roads (534 persons).

Southcentral Region
 Yellowstone, Carbon, and Musselshell Counties
 Adopted May 1, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, in this region. Amendments were adopted for Yellowstone and Carbon Counties.

The district numbers in the proposed Plan 300 Southeast Region were not consistent with the numbers in Plan 300 Northcentral or Northeast Region. When the Commission adopted this region, the district numbering was made consistent and the final plan overview should be referred to for all district descriptions. (See final column for translation between proposed plan 300 and the tentatively adopted final plan district numbers.)

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)	Plan 300 Southcentral Region House District #s
31	8,633	-4.31	15,16	42
32	9,139	1.30	8,9,11,15	33
33	8,684	-3.75	11,15	35
34	8,623	-4.42	12	34
35	8,683	-3.76	10,14,20	38
36	8,627	-4.38	13,14,18,20	36
37	8,622	-4.43	13,18	37
38	8,602	-4.66	13,18,19,20	39
39	8,695	-3.62	17,18,19,21	40
40	8,654	-4.08	13,17,21	41

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)	Plan 300 Southcentral Region House District #s
41	9,191	1.87	9,10	43
42	8,831	-2.12	9,19,20,21	44
43	9,431	4.53	9,16,21,22	45
44	8,741	-3.11	22	46
45	8,735	-3.18	23	47

House District 31 in Yellowstone County includes east of Blue Creek, Lockwood, and out to the Pryor Creek Road south of the Yellowstone River to north of the Crow Reservation line, approximately Blue Creek Road.

House District 32 includes northwestern Yellowstone County including Broadview and Acton and the area west of Highway 87. The southwestern boundary is Canyon Creek and King Ave. due west of Billings and then following the BNSF railroad tracks north to Grand Ave. to 54th St. W. to the Rimrocks. This district includes the Yellowstone Country Club area, the area north of Highway 3 including the airport, Moon Valley, and Alkali Creek. In the Heights, the area north of Sharon and Mary Streets is in this district and east of Bitterroot to the Yellowstone River. The area south of the Shepherd/Acton Road, west of Twelve Mile, and south of Chicago is in this district.

House District 33 includes the eastern half of existing House District 11 in the western Billings Heights. An area north of Wicks to Greenbriar has been added and the area west of Senators Blvd. and MoonValley (most of Alkali Creek) has been excluded.

House District 34 includes most of existing House District 12 in the eastern Billings Heights, excluding the portion north of Sharon and west of Main. The eastern boundary is Bitterroot and the western boundary is the canal. The southern tip is the interchange between I-90 and Highway 87.

House District 35 includes the area west of N. 27th St. and south of the Rimrocks to 17th St. W., north of Beverly Hills Blvd. The area south of Colton Ave. and east of 24th St. W. to 13th St. W. is in this district, as is north of Avenue F to 6th St. W.

House District 36 includes the area south of the Rimrocks east of N. 27th St. north of 4th Ave. and east of N. 20th St. north of Montana Ave. It includes the area roughly north of Burlington to Beverly Hills Blvd/12th St. W. and at 6th St. W. south of Avenue F.

House District 37 includes an area south of Montana Ave. and east of S. 27th St. The area south of 4th Ave. N. from N. 20th St. to Division is also in this district. From Division, the district jogs down to State Ave. over to the Yellowstone River. The area from 17th St. W. to 12th between Grand Ave. and Terry Ave. is also in this district and from 12th St. W. it is south of Burlington.

House District 38 is north of Central and State Ave. from 24th St. W. east to 31st St. N. The northern boundary is Grand Ave. from 24th St. W. to 17th St. W., then Custer Ave., and from 15th St. it becomes Terry Ave., where it jogs down 35th St. to 4th Ave. N.

House District 39 includes the area between Central Ave. and King Ave. from the Canal to Newman. North of Central Ave. it includes the area bounded by the canal, Broadwater Ave., and 24th St. W. An additional area south of I-90 is included bounded by Monroe on the east and Mitchell on the south.

House District 40 includes the area south of State and east of Monroe to the Yellowstone River, the area south of Mitchell east of Newman, and the area south of King Ave. west to Shiloh, including the area west of 36th and south of Monad.

House District 41 is west of 17th St. W. south of the Rimrocks out to Zimmerman Trail north of Rimrock Road and west to Shiloh. It includes the area north of Grand Ave. to Country Manor, north of Avenue D to Rehberg Lane and north of Colton to 17th St. W.

House District 42 is between Shiloh and 24th between Broadwater and Grand Aves., including south of Colton between Country Manor and 24th St. W., and an area south of Avenue D.

Between Broadwater and Monad west of the canal and between Monad and King Aves. between 32nd and 34th Sts. W.

House District 43 is the suburban/rural district between Billings and Laurel from Highway 3 to the north to south of the Yellowstone River west of Blue Creek. It bounds the Laurel district on the west at Cove Ditch. House District 43 also includes south of the Yellowstone River including much of the South School District south to Blue Creek Road. It also includes the Silesia Area from Carbon County (691 persons).

House District 44 is the Laurel district and includes most of existing House District 22, losing the area east of Cove ditch and between I-90 and the Yellowstone River east of Highway 212.

House District 45 includes most of Carbon County, excluding the area north of Highway 212 and State Highway 421. Joliet is in this district. The Roscoe precinct 13 is excluded from this district and will be included in a Stillwater County district with the Southwest Region. Carbon County had in excess of +5% of the ideal district population (9,522 persons or +5.54%).

Southwest Region

Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland, Golden Valley, Musselshell, Park, Gallatin, Broadwater,
Lewis and Clark, Jefferson, Madison, Beaverhead, Butte/Silver Bow, Anaconda/Deer Lodge,
Powell, and Granite Counties

Adopted June 17, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, for this region. The amendments adopted were in Butte/Silver Bow County and in Gallatin County. The Commission completed House District 4 using population in Lewis and Clark County to complete a district first proposed in the Northcentral Region containing all of Teton County. This regional plan includes a change to Plan 300 from the Southcentral Region. The Commission completes 72 districts with this region and ends at the Granite and Powell County boundaries with Ravalli, Missoula, and Flathead Counties.

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)
4	8,744	-3.08	50,58, 87
46	9,109	0.96	23,24
47	9,452	4.77	25
48	9,063	0.46	26
49	8,624	-4.41	8,40
50	9,074	0.58	27,32,40
51	8,586	-4.83	27,28
52	8,603	-4.64	29,30
53	8,607	-4.60	27,29,30
54	8,617	-4.49	27, 29,30
55	9,471	4.98	31,33
56	9,297	3.05	27,31,32

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)
57	9,285	2.92	31,32,33
58	9,320	3.30	33, 39
59	9,202	2.00	34
60	8,602	-4.65	33, 35
61	8,698	-3.59	33, 37
62	8,638	-4.26	35, 36
63	8,668	-3.92	38
64	8,584	-4.85	39,53, 55
65	8,585	-4.84	40, 50, 51, 52
66	8,637	-4.27	50, 51,52
67	8,594	-4.74	51, 52, 53, 54, 55
68	8,590	-4.79	52,53,54, 55
69	8,585	-4.84	53, 54,55
70	8,604	-4.63	50, 55, 56, 58
71	8,594	-4.74	56, 57
72	8,936	-0.95	57, 58

House District 4 includes Teton County in its entirety and also includes the northern two-thirds of Lewis and Clark County including Augusta and Lincoln (2,089 persons) using Highway 200 and the Lincoln city limits as the southern boundary. This district includes the northern half of Powell County north of Highway 200 and north of the Ovando city limits (210 persons).

House District 46 includes all of Stillwater County, the Roscoe Precinct 13 from Carbon County (126 persons). In Sweet Grass County, it includes the area south of I-90 from the Park County line to the Old Boulder Highway south of Big Timber and includes the southern part of the Big Timber Elementary School District (788 persons). The area that is east of Big Timber and north of I-90 is almost the same as in existing House District 24, south of the Tin Can Hill Road until Hannah Road, which it follows due north to the Golden Valley County line, except immediately

east of the Big Timber city limits south of the Yellowstone River is kept with Big Timber in House District 47.

House District 47 is much like existing House District 25. It includes Park County outside of the Livingston area (which includes all of existing House District 26 and a small portion between the existing district and the Yellowstone River, 6,631 persons.) In Sweet Grass County (2,821 persons), it includes the area that was previously in House District 25, including the area north of I-90 west of Big Timber, Big Timber, and adds the area between the Yellowstone River and I-90 from the Park County line to approximately 5 miles east of Big Timber and the area south of Big Timber west of the Old Boulder Highway, including the McLeod Elementary School District. East of Big Timber between the Yellowstone River and I-90 is in this district as well as the area northwest of the Tin Can Hill Road to Hannah Road north to the Golden Valley County line.

House District 48 includes all of existing House District 26 (Livingston) and adds the area between the existing district line and the Yellowstone River between the River Road and Highway 89 to the Livingston district. This district includes all of the Livingston city limits, the area northeast of Livingston to the Old Clyde Park Road, north and east of Willow Creek Road to Kindsfeather west to the ditch. It includes the portion of west Livingston between I-90 and the I-90 business route and the district follows Highway 89 south about 2 miles and includes the population on either side of the highway and the population east of the Antelope Flats Road and Wineglass Loop West north of the Arrowhead Elementary School District line.

House District 49 includes all of Golden Valley, Wheatland, and Meagher Counties, and includes portions of Broadwater and Lewis and Clark Counties. In Broadwater County, it includes the area east of Canyon Ferry and the Missouri River, north of Lower Deep Creek and Highway 12, not including any of the Townsend city limits (864 persons). In Lewis and Clark County, it includes south of Elkhorn Creek about 25 miles north of Helena and east of East Helena using Lake Helena Road and Highway 287 as boundaries, including the Canyon Ferry area (2,257 persons).

House District 50 is a combined Gallatin and Broadwater Counties district. In northern Gallatin County, all of this district is north of I-90, excluding Manhattan, the Belgrade area, the Bozeman city limits, and the lower Bridger Canyon area east of Bozeman using approximately Pine Creek and Stone Creek as the southern boundary (5,553 persons). In Broadwater County, it includes

Townsend, Radersburg, and Toston, the area west of Canyon Ferry and north of Lower Deep Creek Road, and Highway 12 (3,521 persons).

House District 51 includes east of Highland/Holly in Bozeman south of I-90 east to the county line. It includes southern Bozeman, including south of Kagy south to Nash and the Lamotte Elementary School District boundary. North of I-90 the district includes south to Pine Creek/Stone Creek on the east and the northern Bozeman city limits to the west to 7th.

House District 52 in Bozeman includes the area between College and Kagy with an exception of the area between College and Garfield from about 8th to Black, and 6th to Willson. East of Black the district is south of Main to Highland/Holly.

House District 53 is from the Maynard Border Ditch between Durston and Huffine to Sheridan, between Babcock and Huffine/College to Black. It also includes the area between College and Garfield from about 8th to Black and 6th to Willson.

House District 54 is a Bozeman district north of Main to Baxter and I-90 east of Flandersmill Road, not including from the Maynard Border Ditch between Durston and Huffine to Sheridan.

House District 55 includes southern Gallatin County, including West Yellowstone, Big Sky, (Gallatin Gateway), and a small area south of I-90 between Love and Flanders Mill and north of Baxter to Highway 10. This area does not include any of Four Corners. This district also includes the Big Sky census designated place in Madison County (188 persons).

House District 56 is a Belgrade district, north of I-90 and south of Weaver. The area south of I-90 includes between Jack Rabbit and 7th north of Baxter, and between Flandersmill and Jack Rabbit north of Huffine.

House District 57 includes Willow Creek, Three Forks, Manhattan, and south of the East Gallatin River, Amsterdam/Churchill, and the northwest corner of Four Corners, all within Gallatin County.

House District 58 is the bulk of Madison County (6,663 persons), excluding the Big Sky area, and including southern Jefferson County south of I-90 (2,657 persons), including Cardwell and Whitehall.

House District 59 is Beaverhead County is in entirety.

House District 60 is much of existing Butte House District 35. The northwestern boundary is Holmes west of Harrison south to Waterline and west to Foothills. East of Harrison the northern boundary is Ottawa, which it follows south on Continental to I-15 and the interchange and then follows I-90 to Four Mile and Highway 2. The western boundary follows Little Basin Creek south to the county line. This district includes the portion of Silver Bow County east of Little Basin Creek that was previously shared in existing House District 33.

House District 61 is the area south of I-90 and west of Little Basin Creek and the bulk of existing House District 37 in Butte. The northern boundary is Porphyry, Platinum, and Iron in uptown Butte with Main as the eastern boundary, south to George and west to Harrison south to Holmes.

House District 62 includes Butte east of Harrison and north of Ottawa, and east of Continental and west of the county line. West of Harrison and south of Front it includes north of George (Precinct 21). It gains an area between Arizona and Continental south of Platinum and Mercury, the area between I-15, I-90, and Highway 2 south of Four Mile and the county line.

House District 63 is uptown Butte and Walkerville and Silver Bow County north of I-90. The southern boundary is basically Porphyry Street from Ophir to Excelsior, Platinum to Jackson, Gold to Montana, between Montana and Arizona it goes south to Iron.

House District 64 includes Jefferson County (7,392 persons), except for the southern portion south of I-90 and includes southern Lewis and Clark County south of Highway 12 and west of Nelson Gulch and south of the Helena and Kessler Elementary School lines south of Helena (1,192 persons).

House District 65 includes East Helena, Helena west of California and south of Highway 287, the area east of Yellowstone north of Highway 287 and south of the Airport Road, east of Tizer and

south of Howard, east of Pioneer Park and south of York Road, west of Lake Helena and including the area east of East Helena about 2 1/2 miles south of I-15.

House District 66 includes much of western House District 51 east of Montana and south of Sierra, bounded by Prickly Pear Creek on the west. It excludes the area south of Maple and west of Sanders north of the tracks. West of Harris south of the tracks, it includes former House District 52 south to the county line between Montana and California. At Beltview, it uses Saddle Drive as the boundary on the east and at Woodbridge, it uses Diehl and Virginia Dale.

House District 67 includes from Silver Creek north of Helena to 12th/ Neil between Montana and Green Meadow north of Helena and in Helena between Benton and Sanders, Getchell and Harris/Oakes.

House District 68 includes the area east of Davis to Montana south of 12th, between Pine and Neil east of Cruse, between Broadway and Neil from Park to Cruse, from Clarke to Euclid between Hayes/Garfield and Park/Getchell. South of Euclid to the railroad tracks between Henderson/Hudson/Cleveland and Benton, including the area at Carroll College between Getchell and Hollins, and south of the tracks between the Helena Elementary School District line and Green Meadow south of Franklin Mine.

House District 69 includes west Helena from Dry Gulch to Nelson Gulch in the Kessler Elementary School District, the area north of Highway 12 to the Austin Road east of Greenhorn Creek, east of Hidden Valley and south of Silver Creek, the area between the Lincoln Road and Silver Creek, south of Silver Creek west of Applegate, and north of Franklin Mine and Green Meadow. In Helena, south of Pine and west of Cruse, north of Broadway and west of Park, south of Clarke and Lawrence, west of Hayes/Garfield, north of Euclid west of Cleveland, south of Hudson, west of Henderson and south of the tracks.

House District 70 includes the middle third of Lewis and Clark County (6,917 persons) from Highway 200 (not including Lincoln) south to Greenhorn Creek, west of Hidden Valley and north of Silver Creek, the area north of Lincoln Road west of I-15. East of I-15, this district includes north of Sierra Road, east of Prickly Pear Creek, north of Canyon Ferry/Howard and York Roads, west of Valley and Lake Helena Roads and following the Missouri River and Willow Creek to the county line. In Powell County, it includes the northern one-third of the

county (1,687 persons) using Highway 200 and the Ovando city limits. This district includes Ovando.

House District 71 includes the southwest corner of Powell County (5,283 persons), including the city of Deer Lodge and northern Deer Lodge County (3,311 persons). The boundary in Deer Lodge County from the west uses the Denton Point road to Highway 1 to Linden Street in Anaconda where it switches to the railroad tracks through Anaconda using the northern track. On the east side of Anaconda, it continues following the railroad track east to the county line.

House District 72 includes all of Granite County (2,830 persons) and the southern two-thirds of Deer Lodge County (6,106 persons) south of Highway 1 and the railroad tracks. (In Anaconda, the northern track is the boundary).

Western Region

Lincoln, Sanders, Flathead, Lake, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli, and
The Remainder of Glacier and Pondera Counties

Adopted September 16, 2002

Overview

The Commission adopted Plan 300, as amended, for this region which completes all 100 house districts. This plan completes the remainder of Glacier and Pondera Counties in House District 1. This regional plan amended the boundary of previously adopted House District 2 in Glacier County. Amendments were adopted for Flathead, Missoula, and Ravalli Counties from the original Plan 300 proposed for the Western Region.

House District 1 and amended House District 2 were designed under the Commission's Resolution No. 1 in response to the Old Person v. Brown lawsuit. Because of the overall loss of population in Glacier County and east, the gain in American Indian population on both sides of the divide, and the population growth in Western Montana, House District 1 is composed of parts of existing House Districts 73, 75, 85, and 86 and allows for the mitigation of population loss on the eastern side of the continental divide with growth from the western side.

On balance in the western region, there is one completely new House District in Ravalli County (which now has four complete house districts), and one new district between Flathead and Lake Counties. Because House District 79 started fresh at the Missoula County line, it is new in its smaller size as compared to 1990, when part of this district was shared with Powell and Granite Counties. In 2000, this region will now share part of a different district with Pondera and Glacier Counties to the east. Because of the adoption of additional districts in previous regions, an average positive deviation was used in this region.

Kalispell and Missoula are split for population reasons. The Whitefish city limits, Ronan, and the Pablo and Evaro census-designated boundaries are split. Mineral County is intact in all plans, and the remaining counties are split because of population and share population between districts in varying configurations.

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)
1	9,254	2.57	73,75,85,86
Amended 2	9,192	1.88	85,86
73	9,111	0.99	59,60
74	9,013	-0.10	56,60
75	9,039	0.19	60,61
76	8,907	-1.27	61,62
77	8,935	-0.96	58,62
78	8,881	-1.56	58,63
79	9,218	2.17	58,69
80	9,327	3.38	63,64,65
81	9,286	2.93	63,64,67,68
82	8,692	-3.66	62,67,68
83	9,078	0.62	65,67,68
84	9,302	3.10	62,66,70
85	9,368	3.84	62,71
86	9,250	2.53	58,66,69,70
87	9,289	2.96	70,71
88	9,232	2.33	71,72
89	9,388	4.06	73,74
90	9,423	4.45	73,74,75
91	9,467	4.93	75,76
92	9,465	4.91	76,79
93	9,469	4.96	77,78
94	9,468	4.94	76,77,84
95	9,450	4.74	75,77,79,83,84

House District #	2000 Total Population	Deviation from Ideal Population (9,022)	1990 House District(s)
96	9,467	4.93	83
97	9,469	4.96	79,80
98	9,468	4.94	79,80
99	9,408	4.28	72,81,82
100	9,429	4.51	81,82

House District #	2000 Native American Total Population Percentage	2000 Native American Voting Age Population %	1990 Predominant House District	1990 Native American Total Population %	1990 Native American Voting Age Population %
1	58.27	51.92	73 (86)	34.53 29.32	30.79 25.08)
2	68.90	65.74	85	69.95	66.36
89	28.38	23.14	73	34.53	30.79
90	13.68	11.84	74	19.16	15.77

House District 1 contains portions of Flathead, Glacier, Lake, Pondera, and Missoula Counties. The Glacier County portion (1,971 persons) includes south of Highway 89, including the western outskirts of Browning south of Rodeo (this proposal takes House District 1 further out of Browning). East of Browning the district excludes the small area north of Highway 2 and makes Highway 2 the boundary east. About 10 miles west of Cut Bank, the boundary falls south to the county line using the Cut Bank Elementary School District line. In Pondera County, it includes eastern part of the Blackfeet Reservation, including Heart Butte, and Glacier National Park portions of the county (784 persons). In Flathead County (0 persons), the district uses the West Glacier school district boundary to Turmoil Creek and a Forest Service Road to Hungry Horse Reservoir. From Hungry Horse Reservoir, the boundary follows south and west along Quintonkon Creek and follows a ridgeline south. In Lake County (6,444 persons), the district includes the Swan Lake and Salmon School District, which is in this district south of Bond

Creek. The district includes Turtle Lake and a portion of Pablo, south of Greywolf east of Highway 93, between 7th and Division east of Montana and south of Clairmont east of 93. The district follows along the Mission Mountain western front south to the Arlee school district, which it contains in its entirety. In Missoula County (55 persons), it includes the eastern front of the Mission Mountains but does not extend to Highway 83.

House District 2 contains portions of Glacier and Toole Counties. The Glacier County portion (8,068 persons) includes the area north of Highway 89, including Starr School and most of Browning north of Rodeo and east of the city limits. The area north Highway 2 is included. Approximately 10 miles west of Cut Bank, the area south of Highway 2 is also included south to the county line and west of Cut Bank Creek. The boundary now follows the precinct line between House Districts 6 and 7 (to the extent allowed by census block boundaries), but the amendment proposed moving it to the Cut Bank School District line. The area north of the Cut Bank city limits is also in House District 2 and north of Highway 2 east of Cut Bank. The Toole County portion includes north of Highway 2 and west of I-15, including Kevin and Sunburst (1,124 persons).

House District 73 is wholly within Ravalli County including the southern two-thirds. Darby is in this district and the northwestern boundary is South Fork Bear Creek and the northeastern boundary is the Corvallis school district boundary. House District 73 also includes Pinesdale. The district follows south of Hamilton at approximately the Sleeping Child Road and the Bitterroot Canal. The Bitterroot River separates House Districts 73 and 74 south of Hamilton and west of Highway 93 and to the east it is Foley, Grant, and Grantsdale Roads. Blodgett Creek is the boundary north of Hamilton west of Highway 93.

House District 74 includes the towns of Hamilton and Corvallis. North of Hamilton the boundary is Blodgett Creek and Highway 93 and uses the Woodside Cutoff to Corvallis. The Bitterroot River separates House Districts 73 and 74 west of Highway 93 south of Hamilton and to the east it is Foley, Grant, and Grantsdale Roads.

House District 75 includes Victor and the Victor School District north of South Fork Bear Creek west of Highway 93. East of Highway 93 it includes most of the Corvallis School District. This district includes much of Stevensville Elementary District, except for Stevensville and north of Middle Burnt Fork Road.

House District 76 includes Florence and Stevensville north to the Ravalli County line. The boundary is south of Stevensville and the Middle Burnt Fork Road. All of this district is completely in Ravalli County.

House District 77 is southeastern Missoula County, south of Highway 200. Clinton, Bonner, and East Missoula are in this district. The western boundary is south of Lolo using the Florence-Carlton School District (in this district) boundary.

House District 78 includes the Highway 83/ Seeley Swan corridor, which composes the northern half of this district. North of Highway 200 (excluding Bonner and East Missoula) and north of I-90 including the Rattlesnake area are in this district .

House District 79 on the southwestern boundary is east of the Bitterroot River north of Trails End and Miller Creek, south of Old Bitterroot west of Helena, Linda Vista, and Scott Allen. In Missoula, the area east of Higgins and Whitaker is in this district south of 6th and the Clark Fork River. North of Miller Creek and Pattee Canyon is in this district and also Mount Sentinel. The eastern boundary is Deer Creek.

House District 80 is southeast of Brooks Street and west of Higgins. Between Mount and Fairview, the district jogs west using Bancroft, Bow, Stephens, and Race. Russell is the boundary south to Hillview and 55th where it joins Miller Creek Road to Stonehaven and east on Lorraine. The southeastern boundary is the pipeline northeast to Rimel and then north on Whitaker.

House District 81 runs north/south with the railroad tracks, and Cleveland and Rollins are the northwest boundaries north to 6th. Following Brooks, Bancroft, Bow, Stephens, Race, and Hillview north to south on the east boundary. South to Meadowood is the western boundary. North from Meadowood, Upper Miller Creek Road serves as the western boundary, north to Briggs, Gharrett, and Reserve to the railroad tracks.

House District 82 has as its northeasternmost boundary 6th between Garfield and Cottonwood east of Reserve. It also uses 7th, 10th and 11th east of Reserve. From north to south the eastern boundary is Rollins, Cleveland, and the railroad tracks. South of 39th the eastern boundary is Gharrett, Briggs, and Upper Miller Creek Road south to the city limits. The western boundary

follows Scott Allen, Helena, north to Old Bitterroot, which it follows west to the Bitterroot River. West of the river the boundary is Hayes Creek to Highway 93 and north to Blue Mountain, which it follows north to River Pines back east across the river.

House District 83 is between 3rd and South west of Reserve and east of Clements. East of Reserve the district is between Wyoming/Dakota Streets and 6th between Garfield and Madison.

House District 84 straddles the Clark Fork River from Orange Street westward to Grant Creek. The northern boundary is Broadway and the southern boundary is 3rd west of Reserve and 6th east of Reserve. The area between Broadway and the railroad west of Shakespeare is also in this district.

House District 85 is now wholly within Missoula County. It includes the Lolo area and all of the Lolo and the Woodman Elementary School Districts. The district goes north to the Clark Fork River and the Alberton and Target Range School District boundaries and north of the river at Mill Creek up to, but not including, Wye. It includes an area north of the Bitterroot River north of Mount and east of Clements.

House District 86 includes Evaro east of Highway 93 and Wye and a small portion west of Highway 93 between the Frenchtown Frontage Road and the railroad north of Roller Coaster. It includes the area northeast of Broadway (Highway 93), including Grant Creek, and in the city of Missoula, west of Madison between I-90 and the Clark Fork River, and between the railroad tracks and I-90 east of Shakespeare.

House District 87 includes all of Mineral County, the eastern third of Sanders County (995 persons), including Paradise and Dixon, and west of Highway 93 and west, including Frenchtown in Missoula County (4,410 persons). Between House Districts 87 and 88, from the west the boundary uses the Clark Fork River and Highway 185, and the Paradise, Camas Prairie, and Dixon Elementary School District lines.

House District 88 is wholly within Sanders County (9,232 persons). It includes the I-90 corridor from Plains to the Idaho border and also includes Hot Springs, Lonepine, and Niarada.

House District 89 is wholly within Lake County. It reaches from south of Polson south to the Arlee School District boundary. It includes Ravalli, St. Ignatius, Kicking Horse, Charlo, Ronan, and part of Pablo. It skirts the Polson city limits on the east, follows Skyline and Grenier from the southeast city limits west to the Pump Canal, and the northwestern boundary follows the Flathead River to the southwest.

House District 90 includes northern Lake County (7,520 persons) and southwestern Flathead County (1,903 persons). In Lake County the southernmost point is Polson, following the Flathead River to the Pump Canal, Grenier, and Skyline to the eastern city limits. It includes the west shore communities of Polson, Rocky Point, Jette, Kings Point, Big Arm, Elmo, Dayton, and Rollins. In Flathead County, it includes everything south of Highway 2 and uses the Kila and Smith Valley School District lines west of Kalispell.

House District 91 includes Finley Point and the east shore in Lake County (3,155 persons) and includes Big Fork and north of the Flathead River east of Kalispell (6,312 persons). It includes the entire Bigfork, Creston, and Swan Elementary School Districts, using the Bigfork and Creston western boundaries. Its northern boundaries are Highway 35 at the Flathead River until the Mennonite Church Road, which it follows east and jogs south to Krause Creek which becomes the northeastern boundary over the ridgeline to the southern tip of Hungry Horse. The southeastern boundary is Quintonkon Creek west to the Lake County line.

House District 92 is wholly within Flathead County. It includes south of the Kalispell city limits, south and west of the Flathead River, Somers, and Lakeside. The southern boundary skirts the Lakeside census designated place boundaries.

House District 93's northern boundary is Wyoming/California in Kalispell proper. The eastern boundary is Willow Glen, the southern boundary follows city limits for the most part, but also includes the area north of Haven in the southeast. The western boundary is Meridian.

House District 94 includes north Kalispell, north of Wyoming and California Streets. It is bounded on the east by the Flathead River north to Capistrano and includes most of the area between the Flathead and Whitefish Rivers (excluding north of Reserve and west of Scenic). West of the Whitefish River, the northern boundary is Ritzman and Evergreen, the city limits,

and west of Whitefish Stage it is Reserve or the Stillwater River. The western boundary is Highway 93 south until it meets Meridian to Wyoming.

House District 95 is a district in between Hungry Horse, Whitefish, and Kalispell. Its southern boundaries are Highway 35 at the Flathead River until the Mennonite Church Road which it follows east and jogs south to Krause Creek which becomes the southeastern boundary over the ridgeline to the southern tip of Hungry Horse at Fenmore Creek. The eastern boundary is Hungry Horse Reservoir. The western boundary is at Four Mile and Valley northwest of Kalispell north to Spring Prairie, KM Ranch. At Whitefish Stage the boundary proceeds north to Hodgeon to Trumble Creek and north to Highway 40. The district abuts the Hungry Horse community and is south of Highway 2.

House District 96 is the northeast corner of the county and includes Columbia Falls, Martin City, Hungry Horse, and Coram. A portion south of the Flathead River is included. North of Tiger Creek and most of West Glacier Elementary School District, excluding the southeast corner south of Highway 2, is in this district.

House District 97 is the Whitefish district. South Whitefish, south of Glenwood, is in this district, south to the Kalispell Elementary School District line east to Whitefish Stage Road north to Hodgeon to Trumble Creek north to Highway 40 and west to Halfmoon.

House District 98 includes north Whitefish, north of Glenwood, and is the western portion of the county south to Highway 2. It does include an area that includes some of the city limits in Kalispell between Highway 2 and Four Mile west of Highway 93.

House District 99 includes most of Lincoln County, including the area east of Libby, Rexford, and Eureka, Fortine, Trego, and Stryker to the north. The western boundary is the county line with Flathead County. All of Lincoln County is in House Districts 99 or 100. The area formerly shared with House District 72 is predominantly in this district.

House District 100 includes southcentral Lincoln County including Libby and Troy. The Troy city limits are the northwest boundary and north of Highway 2 to the ridgeline between Troy and Libby. All of Libby and south of Libby and east of Highway 2 to Libby Creek are in this district.

ADOPTED SENATE DISTRICTS AND ASSIGNMENT OF HOLDOVER SENATORS

The 25 members of the Senate who were elected in 2002 are assigned a senate district to represent upon the expiration of the current districts after 2003-04 and after the implementation of the new districts for the 2004 election for the composition of the 2005 Legislature. The 25 Senators whose names do not appear on this list will have the opportunity to choose which district that they may be eligible to run in, dependent upon availability, term limits, and residency requirements.

New Senate District #	New House District Pairings	Existing Senate District comparison	Holdover Senator Assignments (current SD#)
1	1-2	43/37/38	Roush (43)
2	3-14	44/45/43	Black (44)
3	4-6		
4	5-12		Tropila (24)
5	11-13		Mangan (23)
6	9-10		Schmidt (21)
7	7-8		
8	15-16	46/45	Hanson(46)
9	18-22		
10	17-21		
11	19-20		Tester (45)
12	23-24		
13	25-26	2/1	Bales (1)
14	29-30	3	
15	28-31		
16	27-32		Gebhardt (4)
17	33-34	6	
18	35-36	5/7	Cromley (9)
19	37-38		

New Senate District #	New House District Pairings	Existing Senate District comparison	Holdover Senator Assignments (current SD#)
20	39-40		
21	41-42	5/10	Bohlinger (7)
22	43-44	11	McGee (11)
23	45-46	12	Story (12)
24	47-48	13	Esp (13)
25	51-54	14	Wheat (14)
26	52-53	15	
27	56-50	14/16	
28	57-55	16	Perry (16)
29	58-59		
30	60-61		
31	62-63		
32	64-65		Grimes (20)
33	66-67	26	Cooney (26)
34	68-69	27/28	
35	49-70		Anderson (28)
36	71-72	29	
37	73-74	30	Laible (30)
38	75-76	31/30	
39	77-78	29/35	
40	79-80	32/33	
41	81-82	34/32/21	Squires (34)
42	83-84		Ellingson (33)
43	85-86		
44	87-88	36	
45	89-90	37	
46	91-92	38	Keenan (38)
47	93-94	39	Barkus (48)

New Senate District #	New House District Pairings	Existing Senate District comparison	Holdover Senator Assignments (current SD#)
48	95-98		
49	97-96	40	
50	99-100	41	Curtis (41)

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**LEGISLATIVE REDISTRICTING PLAN:
BASED ON THE 2000 CENSUS**

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