LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 277

Introduced by Wayne, 13.

Read first time January 11, 2017

Committee: Government, Military and Veterans Affairs

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to elections; to amend section 32-903, Reissue
- 2 Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions relating to
- 3 precinct size; and to repeal the original section.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

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1 Section 1. Section 32-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 2 amended to read:

3 32-903 (1) The election commissioner or county clerk shall create precincts composed of compact and contiguous territory within the 4 boundary lines of legislative districts. The precincts shall contain not 5 less than seventy-five nor more than one thousand seven hundred fifty 6 registered voters based on the number of voters voting at the last 7 statewide general election, except that a precinct may contain less than 8 9 seventy-five registered voters if in the judgment of the election commissioner or county clerk it is necessary to avoid creating an undue 10 hardship on the registered voters in the precinct. The election 11 commissioner or county clerk shall create precincts based on the number 12 of votes cast at the immediately preceding presidential election or the 13 current list of registered voters for the precinct. The election 14 commissioner or county clerk shall revise and rearrange the precincts and 15 16 increase or decrease them at such times as may be necessary to make the 17 precincts contain as nearly as practicable not less than seventy-five nor more than one thousand seven hundred fifty registered voters voting at 18 the last statewide general election. The election commissioner or county 19 clerk shall, when necessary and possible, readjust precinct boundaries to 20 coincide with the boundaries of cities, villages, and school districts 21 which are divided into districts or wards for election purposes. The 22 election commissioner or county clerk shall not make any precinct changes 23 24 in precinct boundaries or divide precincts into two or more parts between the statewide primary and general elections unless he or she has been 25 authorized to do so by the Secretary of State. If changes are authorized, 26 the election commissioner or county clerk shall notify each state and 27 28 local candidate affected by the change.

(2) The election commissioner or county clerk may alter and divide the existing precincts, except that when any city of the first class by ordinance divides any ward of such city into two or more voting districts

- 1 or polling places, the election commissioner or county clerk shall
- 2 establish precincts or polling places in conformity with such ordinance.
- 3 No such alteration or division shall take place between the statewide
- 4 primary and general elections except as provided in subsection (1) of
- 5 this section.
- 6 (3) All precincts and polling places may be consolidated for the use
- 7 of electronic voting systems into fewer and larger precincts as deemed
- 8 necessary and advisable by the election commissioner or county clerk.
- 9 Such precincts, consolidated for electronic voting systems only, may have
- 10 as many registered voters therein as deemed advisable in the interest of
- 11 economy and efficiency. At least one electronic voting device shall be
- 12 provided for every five hundred registered voters voting in the
- 13 consolidated precinct or polling place at the immediately preceding
- 14 general election.
- 15 Sec. 2. Original section 32-903, Reissue Revised Statutes of
- 16 Nebraska, is repealed.