



- 4) Establishes redistricting commissions in Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo counties, and tasks each commission with adjusting districts of supervisorial districts after each decennial federal census.

This bill:

- 1) Establishes a 14-member CRCCSB and tasks it with adjusting the boundary lines of the supervisorial districts in San Bernardino County following each federal decennial census.
- 2) Provides that the political party preferences of the CRCCSB members, as shown on the members' most recent affidavits of registration, must be as proportional as possible to the total number of voters who are registered with each political party in San Bernardino County, or who decline to state or do not indicate a party preference, as determined by registration at the most recent statewide election. The political party or no party preferences of the CRCCSB members are not required to be exactly the same as the proportion of political party and no party preferences among the registered voters of the county. At least one CRCCSB member must reside in each of the five existing supervisorial districts.
- 3) Prescribes specific qualifications to serve on the CRCCSB, requirements while serving on the CRCCSB, and prohibitions following service on the CRCCSB.
- 4) Provides that interested individuals may submit an application to the county elections official to be considered for membership on the CRCCSB. The county elections official reviews the applications and eliminates applicants who do not meet the specific qualifications of commissioners.
- 5) Provides, from the pool of qualified applicants, the county elections official shall select up to 60 qualified applicants. The county elections official is required to publicize the names of the applicants for at least 30 days. The county elections official may eliminate any of the selected applicants if the official becomes aware that the applicant does not meet the qualifications to be a commissioner.
- 6) Provides that after the time period when the names of the qualified applicants are made public, the county elections official must create a subpool for each of the five existing supervisorial districts. The San Bernardino County Auditor-Controller is required to conduct a random drawing to select one commissioner from each of the five subpools established by the county elections official at a regularly scheduled meeting of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors. Following this random drawing, the Auditor-Controller randomly selects three additional commissioners from all of the remaining applicants. The eight commissioners selected review the remaining applicants and appoints six additional members to the CRCCSB.
- 7) Provides that nine CRCCSB members constitutes a quorum and at least nine affirmative votes are required for any official action.
- 8) Provides a process to remove a commissioner for substantial neglect of duty, gross misconduct in office, causing the CRCCSB to be unable to discharge its duties with

nine affirmative votes, or not meeting or no longer meeting the requirements to serve on the CRCCSB. A majority vote of the CRCCSM is required to remove a commissioner and the commissioner subject to removal must not vote on their own removal.

- 9) Requires various outreach and meeting requirements before the drafting of a map and following the creation of a draft map for the supervisorial districts.
- 10) Requires the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors to take all steps necessary to ensure that a complete and accurate computerized database is available for redistricting, and that procedures are in place to provide to the public ready access to redistricting data and computer software equivalent to what is available to the CRCCSB members.
- 11) Requires the CRCCSB to adopt a redistricting plan adjusting the boundaries of the supervisorial districts and file the plan with the county elections official no later than 204 days before San Bernardino County's next regularly scheduled election occurring after January 1 in each year ending in the number two.
- 12) Subjects the plan to referendum in the same manner as ordinances.
- 13) Requires the CRCCSB to issue, with the final map, a report that explains the basis on which the CRCCSB made its decisions in achieving compliance with the criteria prescribed by this bill.

### **BACKGROUND**

California Citizens Redistricting Commission. In 2008, voters approved Proposition 11, creating the California Citizens Redistricting Commission (CCRC), and gave it the responsibility for establishing district lines for the Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization. In 2010, the voters approved Proposition 20 and gave the CCRC the responsibility for establishing lines for California's districts for the United States House of Representatives. The CCRC consists of 14 registered voters, including five Democrats, five Republicans, and four who have a party preference different than the two largest political parties, all of whom are chosen according to procedures specified in Proposition 11.

Local Redistricting. Prior to 2017, counties and general law cities were able to create advisory redistricting commissions, but were not able to create independent commissions with the authority to establish district boundaries. Instead, the governing body of that jurisdiction generally had the authority to establish district boundaries. Charter cities are able to establish independent redistricting commissions that have the authority to establish district boundaries because the California Constitution gives charter cities broad authority over the conduct of city elections and over the manner for which municipal officers are elected. As a result, a number of California charter cities established redistricting commissions to adjust city council districts following each decennial census. Counties and general law cities did not have this authority in the absence of express statutory authorization.

Legislative Authority for County Redistricting Commissions. The Legislature has created independent redistricting commissions for nine counties: Fresno, Kern, Los Angeles, Merced, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, and San Luis Obispo.

The Legislature also authorized, but did not require, counties and general law cities to establish redistricting commissions. SB 1108 (Allen), Chapter 784, Statutes of 2016, authorized two different types of commissions: independent commissions and advisory commissions. SB 1108 generally provided cities and counties with the discretion to determine the structure and membership of an advisory or independent redistricting commission.

While SB 1108 imposed few restrictions and requirements on advisory commissions, it did subject members of independent commissions to extensive eligibility requirements and post-service restrictions. Subsequently, SB 1018 (Allen), Chapter 462, Statutes of 2018, allowed for a third type of redistricting commission: hybrid redistricting commissions.

Redistricting in San Bernardino County. In 2021, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors redrew its supervisorial district lines using data from the 2020 federal decennial census. To assist with San Bernardino County's redistricting process, the county used an advisory redistricting commission. This commission conducted 16 public meetings in multiple locations throughout San Bernardino County. The commission publicly examined and discussed five proposed supervisorial district maps submitted by the public, one map created by a commission member, three maps created at the direction of the advisory commission, and an updated map from 2011 with the 2020 Census information. The commission referred three maps for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The Board of Supervisors made some modifications to the draft maps and adopted one of those maps at a meeting on December 14, 2021.

### **COMMENTS**

- 1) Author's Statement. This bill requires the establishment of an independent redistricting commission in the County of San Bernardino. This will create fair and equitable supervisorial maps for our community.

Under current law, county boards of supervisors adjust district boundaries following each census. Several large California counties have already adopted independent commissions to oversee this process. This bill would bring San Bernardino County in line with these best practices by shifting redistricting authority to an independent, community-focused body.

San Bernardino County is one of the most diverse and fastest-growing regions in California, and our communities deserve a redistricting process that is fair, transparent, and rooted in the voices of residents, not politics. This measure will help ensure that every neighborhood has an equitable opportunity to be represented and that our district lines reflect the people who live here. An independent commission builds trust in our elections and strengthens our democracy for the long term.

- 2) Political Party Preferences. If chaptered, the CRCCSB makeup will be required, as shown on the members' most recent affidavits of registration, to be as proportional as possible to the total number of voters who are registered with each political party preference in San Bernardino County, as determined by registration at the most recent statewide election. According to the December 30, 2025, Report of Registration, the Secretary of State reported the following for San Bernardino County:

<b>Party Preference</b>	<b>Registered Voters (Total: 1,240,216)</b>
Democratic	479,731 (38.68%)
Republican	380,989 (30.72%)
American Independent	61,871 (4.99%)
Green	5,212 (0.42%)
Libertarian	13,388 (1.08%)
Peace and Freedom	10,486 (0.85%)
Unknown	2,925 (0.24%)
Other	13,111 (1.06%)
No Party Preference	272,503 (21.97%)

If the December 30, 2025, Report of Registration is used to calculate the potential party preference composition of the CRCCSB, Democrats would have 5 or 6 members, Republicans would have 4 or 5 members, No Party Preference voters would have 3 or 4 members, and each of the remaining party preferences (American Independent, Green, Libertarian, and Peace and Freedom) would have 0 or 1 member.

- 3) Suggested Amendment. This bill creates a process to remove a commissioner. The commissioner subject to removal is unable to vote on their own removal and would be removed if a majority, eight votes, of the CRCCSB agreed with the removal of that commissioner. The bill requires nine members to establish quorum and nine votes for any official action. The committee, therefore, recommends the bill be amended to change the number of votes required to remove a commissioner from a majority to nine votes to align the vote requirement with any other official action.
- 4) Double Referral. If approved by this committee, this bill will be referred to the Committee on Local Government for further consideration.

**RELATED/PRIOR LEGISLATION**

SB 1441 (Soria), Chapter 730, Statutes of 2025, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in Merced County.

SB 977 (Laird), Chapter 450, Statutes of 2024, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in San Luis Obispo County.

AB 1248 (Bryan) of 2023 would have required a county or city with more than 300,000 residents, or a school district or community college district with more than 500,000 residents, to establish an independent redistricting commission to adopt district

boundaries after each federal decennial census. AB 1248 was vetoed by Governor Newsom who raised fiscal concerns with the measure.

SB 52 (Durazo) of 2023 would have required an independent redistricting commission for charter cities with a population of at least 2,500,000 people to adjust the district boundaries for the city council. SB 52 was vetoed by Governor Newsom. Governor Newsom's veto message stated the following: "While I agree with the goal of the author's proposal, this bill is contingent on the enactment of Assembly Bill 1248, which I have vetoed."

SB 314 (Ashby), Chapter 389, Statutes of 2023, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in Sacramento County.

AB 34 (Valencia), Chapter 315, Statutes of 2023, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in the Orange County.

AB 1307 (Cervantes), Chapter 403, Statutes of 2022, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in Riverside County.

AB 2030 (Arambula), Chapter 407, Statutes of 2022, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in Fresno County.

AB 2494 (Salas), Chapter 411, Statutes of 2022, created a Citizens Redistricting Commission in Kern County.

SB 139 (Allen) of 2019 would have required a county with a population of 400,000 or more to establish an independent redistricting commission to adopt the county supervisorial districts after each federal decennial census. SB 139 was vetoed by the Governor who noted that the proposal be considered in the annual budget process.

SB 1018 (Allen), Chapter 462, Statutes of 2018, extended the authority to adopt redistricting commissions to school districts, community college districts, and special districts, relaxed some requirements for members of independent commissions, and allowed for hybrid commissions.

AB 801 (Weber), Chapter 711, Statutes of 2017, revised the membership of the County of San Diego's Citizens Redistricting Commission to a 14-member commission charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors.

SB 958 (Lara), Chapter 781, Statutes of 2016, established an independent Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles to adjust the boundary lines of the districts of the county's Board of Supervisors.

SB 1108 (Allen), Chapter 784, Statutes of 2016, authorized a county or a general law city to establish a redistricting commission.

### **POSITIONS**

**Sponsors:** California Common Cause

Inland Empire United  
League of Women Voters of California

**Support:** Courage California  
Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice  
Inland Equity Community Land Trust  
Starting Over Inc.  
Starting Over Strong  
Nine individuals

**Oppose:** None received

-- END --