

HR 2978

Let the People Draw the Lines Act of 2013

Congress: 113 (2013–2015, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: Congress

Introduced: Aug 2, 2013

Current Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.

Latest Action: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice. (Sep 13, 2013)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/113th-congress/house-bill/2978>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Lowenthal, Alan S. [D-CA-47]

Party: Democratic • **State:** CA • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Brownley, Julia [D-CA-26]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2014
Rep. Takano, Mark [D-CA-41]	D · CA		Apr 28, 2014
Rep. Cicilline, David N. [D-RI-1]	D · RI		Jul 22, 2014

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Judiciary Committee	House	Referred to	Sep 13, 2013

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Congress

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
113 S 2910	Related bill	Sep 18, 2014: Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.
113 HR 2758	Related bill	Sep 13, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
113 HR 2490	Related bill	Jul 15, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
113 HR 278	Related bill	Feb 28, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution And Civil Justice.
113 HR 223	Related bill	Jan 25, 2013: Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution And Civil Justice.

Let the People Draw the Lines Act of 2013 - Prohibits a state that has been redistricted after an apportionment from being redistricted again until after the next apportionment of Representatives, unless the state is ordered by a court to conduct such a subsequent redistricting in order to comply with the Constitution or enforce the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Requires any congressional redistricting to be conducted according to: (1) a plan developed by the independent redistricting commission established in the state; or (2) if such plan is not enacted into law, the redistricting plan selected by the state's highest court or developed by a U.S. district court.

Requires each state to establish an independent redistricting commission to develop a redistricting plan for the state in accordance with specified criteria, including requirements that districts: (1) have equal population per representative as nearly as practicable; (2) comply with the Voting Rights Act of 1965; (3) are geographically contiguous; (4) have boundaries that minimize the division of any municipality, county, neighborhood, or community of interest; and (5) are geographically compact and use visible geographic features. Prohibits consideration, in developing a redistricting plan, of the political party affiliation of the population of a district or the residence of any Member of the House of Representatives or candidate. Sets forth requirements for public notice and hearings on redistricting plans and a process for enactment of a final redistricting plan.

Sets forth alternative procedures for the development of a redistricting plan by a state's highest court or a federal district court if a plan developed by a state independent redistricting commission is not enacted into law by a specified date.

Provides for: (1) Election Assistance Commission payments to states for carry out redistricting, and (2) civil enforcement to carry out this Act by the Attorney General or an individual state elector who is aggrieved by a violation of this Act.

Actions Timeline

- **Sep 13, 2013:** Referred to the Subcommittee on the Constitution and Civil Justice.
- **Aug 2, 2013:** Introduced in House
- **Aug 2, 2013:** Sponsor introductory remarks on measure. (CR H5375)
- **Aug 2, 2013:** Referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.