

PROPOSED AMENDMENT MAKING SINGLE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS, 1857

Proposed by joint resolution of the General Assembly, April
3, 1857. Submitted to electors, October 13, 1857.

Total vote cast	.	.	.	.	.	332,126
For amendment	.	.	.	.	.	147,260
Against amendment	.	.	.	.	.	32,657

Not adopted.

RESOLVED by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, three-fifths of the members elected to each house concurring therein, that it be and hereby is proposed to the electors of this state to vote on the second Tuesday of October next upon the approval or rejection of the following amendment as an additional section to article eleven of the Constitution:

Every county which now is or may hereafter be entitled to more than one senator or representative for the residue of the present decennial period, or for all or any portion of any subsequent decennial period, shall be divided into as many senatorial or representative districts as there may be senators or representatives elective in any year of the present, or any subsequent decennial period; which districts shall be of contiguous territory, and each district shall contain as nearly a ratio for senator or representative as is attainable without violating the rule herein given as to contiguity of territory, and without dividing any township, election precinct, or ward. If any representative or senatorial district, composed of two or more counties shall by reason of

any excess of population over a ratio, be entitled to additional representatives or senators for any portion of the present or any subsequent decennial period, the district shall be divided into two districts, for each portion of such decennial period, which shall be contiguous territory, and each shall contain as near a ratio as is attainable without dividing counties.

If by reason of annexation of one senatorial district to another there shall be any excess of population over a senatorial ratio which shall be entitled to senatorial representation for any portion of any decennial period, each district as now constituted shall elect one senator.

Counties shall be divided into districts by the county commissioners, or such other board of officers elective and resident in the proper county as may be provided by law. At least four months prior to the general election in 1853, the counties entitled to more than one member of either house shall be divided into districts for the residue of the present decennial period; and at least four months prior to the general election of the first year of each subsequent period, the counties entitled to more than one member for all, or any portion of such decennial period, in either or both houses, shall be divided into districts for the whole of the decennial period. A description of the districts of each county shall be published as may be directed by the county commissioners, or as may be prescribed by law.²⁴

²⁴ Not in volume of *Laws of Ohio* for 1857; on file in office of secretary of State. — ED.