

**67C.135 Division of county into legislative council districts after election approving consolidation -- Requirements for district plan -- Right of registered voter to bring action in Circuit Court.**

- (1) After certification of the election at which the voters of a county containing a city of the first class have approved the consolidation of a city of the first class and the county and after receipt of the 2000 census data, a plan to divide the county into twenty-six (26) legislative council districts shall be submitted to the fiscal court in order to establish the initial boundaries of the legislative council districts for the newly consolidated government.
- (2) The district plan for the legislative council shall be prepared and submitted by representatives of a department of geography from the largest public university that exists within the county.
- (3) Upon submission of the plan that lays out the initial boundaries of the legislative council districts, the fiscal court shall approve the plan within thirty (30) days as submitted and without amendment.
- (4) The boundaries of the districts shall be drawn so that the districts are compact and contiguous, and the population of each district shall be as nearly equal as is reasonably possible.
- (5) Thereafter, and not less than every ten (10) years, the legislative council shall initiate reapportionment proceedings in May of the first year following the decennial census of the United States to review the districts and reapportion them if necessary.
- (6) To initiate a reapportionment proceeding, the legislative council shall publish notice of the planned reapportionment in accordance with KRS Chapter 424.
- (7) In no event shall districts be reapportioned during the period from thirty (30) days prior to the last date for filing for candidacy for local government office as provided in KRS 118.165 and the regular election for candidates for local government office.
- (8) Precinct lines shall be drawn when necessary in accordance with the provisions of law. No precinct shall be in more than one (1) district.
- (9) Within twenty (20) days of the establishment of the districts by the legislative council, any registered voter of the county may bring an action in the Circuit Court to enforce the provisions of this section. The Circuit Court shall hear the action and, on a finding that the legislative council has violated the provisions of this section, remand the matter to the legislative council. The Circuit Court, in its discretion, may allow the prevailing party, other than the legislative council, a reasonable attorney's fee, to be paid from the treasury of the local government, as part of the costs.

**Effective:** July 14, 2000

**History:** Created 2000 Ky. Acts ch. 189, sec. 18, effective July 14, 2000.