	20100373D
1	HOUSE BILL NO. 877
2	Offered January 8, 2020
2 3	Prefiled January 7, 2020
4	A BILL to amend and reenact §§ 24.2-306, 24.2-309.2, 30-263, 30-264, and 30-265 of the Code of
5	Virginia and to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Title 30 a chapter numbered 60, consisting
6	of sections numbered 30-376 through 30-386, relating to Virginia Redistricting Commission.
7	
0	Patrons—Sickles and Lopez
8 9	
	Referred to Committee on Privileges and Elections
10 11	Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:
12	1. That §§ 24.2-306, 24.2-309.2, 30-263, 30-264, and 30-265 of the Code of Virginia are amended
13	and reenacted and that the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Title 30 a chapter
14	numbered 60, consisting of sections numbered 30-376 through 30-386, as follows:
15	§ 24.2-306. Changes not to be enacted within 60 days of general election; notice requirements.
16	A. No change in any local election district, precinct, or polling place shall be enacted within 60 days
17	next preceding any general election. Notice shall be published prior to enactment in a newspaper having
18	general circulation in the election district or precinct once a week for two successive weeks. The
19	published notice shall state where descriptions and maps of proposed boundary and polling place
20	changes may be inspected.
21	B. Notice of any adopted change in any election district, town, precinct, or polling place other than
22	in the location of the office of the general registrar shall be mailed to all registered voters whose
23 24	election district, town, precinct, or polling place is changed at least 15 days prior to the next general, special, or primary election in which the voters will be voting in the changed election district, town,
24 25	precinct, or polling place. Notice of a change in the location of the office of the general registrar shall
2 6	be given by posting on the official website of the county or city, by posting at not less than 10 public
2 7	places, or by publication once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county or city within not
28	more than 21 days in advance of the change or within seven days following the change.
29	C. Each county, city, and town shall comply with the applicable requirements of law, including
30	§§ 24.2-304.3 and 30-264 30-380, and send copies of enacted changes, including a Geographic
31	Information System (GIS) map showing the new boundaries of the districts or precincts, to the local
32	electoral board, the Department, and the Division of Legislative Services. Any county, city, or town that
33 34	does not have GIS capabilities may request the Department of Elections to create on its behalf a GIS
34 35	map showing the boundaries of the new districts or precincts, and the Department of Elections shall create such a map.
36	§ 24.2-309.2. Election precincts; prohibiting precinct changes for specified period of time.
37	No county, city, or town shall create, divide, abolish, or consolidate any precincts, or otherwise
38	change the boundaries of any precinct, effective during the period from February 1, 2019, to May 15,
39	2021, except as (i) provided by law upon a change in the boundaries of the county, city, or town, (ii)
40	the result of a court order, (iii) the result of a change in the form of government, or (iv) the result of an
41	increase or decrease in the number of local election districts other than at-large districts. Any ordinance
42	required to comply with the requirements of § 24.2-307 shall be adopted on or before February 1, 2019.
43	If a change in the boundaries of a precinct is required pursuant to clause (i), (ii), (iii), or (iv), the
44 45	county, city, or town shall comply with the applicable requirements of law, including §§ 24.2-304.3 and 30-264 30-380, and send copies of the ordered or enacted changes to the State Board of Elections and
4 5 4 6	the Division of Legislative Services.
47	This section shall not prohibit any county, city, or town from adopting an ordinance revising precinct
48	boundaries after January 1, 2021. However, no revisions in precinct boundaries shall be implemented in
49	the conduct of elections prior to May 15, 2021.
50	§ 30-263. Joint Reapportionment Committee; membership; terms; quorum; compensation and
51	expenses.
52	A. The Joint Reapportionment Committee is established in the legislative branch of state government.
53	The Committee shall consist of five members of the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the
54	House of Delegates and three members of the Committee on Privileges and Elections of the Senate
55 56	appointed by the respective chairmen of the two committees. Members shall serve terms coincident with their terms of office.
50 57	B. The Joint Committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership. A

HB877

B. The Joint Committee shall elect a chairman and vice-chairman from among its membership. A majority of the members of the Committee shall constitute a quorum. The meetings of the Committee 58

59 shall be held at the call of the chairman or whenever the majority of the members so request.

C. The Joint Committee shall supervise activities required for the tabulation of population for the 60 census and for the timely reception of precinct population data for reapportionment, and perform such 61 other duties and responsibilities and exercise such supervision as may promote the orderly redistricting 62 63 of congressional, state legislative, and local election districts.

64 D. Members shall receive such compensation as provided in § 30-19.12 and shall be reimbursed for 65 all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. Funding for the costs of compensation and expenses of the members shall be 66 provided by the Office of the Clerk of the House of Delegates and the Office of Clerk of the Senate for 67 **68** their respective members. 69

§ 30-264. Staff to Joint Reapportionment Committee.

A. The Division of Legislative Services (the Division) shall serve as staff to the Joint 70 71 Reapportionment Committee. The Director of the Division, or his designated representative, shall serve as the state liaison with the United States Bureau of the Census on matters relating to the tabulation of 72 the population for reapportionment purposes pursuant to United States Public Law 94-171. The 73 74 governing bodies, electoral boards, and registrars of every county and municipality shall cooperate with 75 the Division in the exchange of all statistical and other information pertinent to preparation for the 76 census.

77 B. The Division shall maintain the current election district and precinct boundaries of each county 78 and city as a part of the General Assembly's computer-assisted mapping and redistricting system. Whenever a county or city governing body adopts an ordinance that changes an election district or 79 precinct boundary, the local governing body shall provide a copy of its ordinance, along with 80 Geographic Information System (GIS) maps and other evidence documenting the boundary, to the 81 82 **Division**.

83 C. The Division shall prepare and maintain a written description of the boundaries for the 84 congressional, senatorial, and House of Delegates districts set out in Article 2 (§ 24.2-302 et seq.) of 85 Chapter 3 of Title 24.2. The descriptions shall identify each district boundary, insofar as practicable, by reference to political subdivision boundaries or to physical features such as named roads and streets. The 86 87 Division shall furnish to each general registrar the descriptions for the districts dividing his county or city. The provisions of Article 2, including the statistical reports referred to in Article 2, shall be 88 89 controlling in any legal determination of a district boundary.

90 § 30-265. Reapportionment of congressional and state legislative districts; United States Census 91 population counts.

92 For the purposes of redrawing the boundaries of the congressional, state Senate, and House of Delegates districts after the United States Census for the year 2000 and every 10 years thereafter, the 93 General Assembly Virginia Redistricting Commission shall use the population data provided by the 94 United States Bureau of the Census identical to those from the actual enumeration conducted by the 95 Bureau for the apportionment of the Representatives of the United States House of Representatives 96 following the United States decennial census, except that the census data used for this apportionment 97 98 purpose shall not include any population figure which is not allocated to specific census blocks within 99 the Commonwealth, even though that population may have been included in the apportionment population figures of the Commonwealth for the purpose of allocating United States House of 100 101 Representatives seats among the states.

102 103 104

CHAPTER 60.

VIRGINIA REDISTRICTING COMMISSION.

§ 30-376. Virginia Redistricting Commission.

The Virginia Redistricting Commission is established in the legislative branch of state government. It 105 shall be convened in the year 2020 and every 10 years thereafter for the purpose of establishing 106 107 districts for the United States House of Representatives and for the Senate and the House of Delegates 108 of the General Assembly. 109

As used in this chapter:

"Census data" means the population data received from the United States Bureau of the Census 110 pursuant to P.L. 94-171. 111 112

"Commission" means the Virginia Redistricting Commission established pursuant to this chapter.

113 "Committee" means the Redistricting Commission Selection Committee established pursuant to 114 § 30-378.

115 "Partisan public office" means (i) an elective or appointive office in the executive or legislative branch or in an independent establishment of the federal government; (ii) an elective office in the 116 executive or legislative branch of the government of the Commonwealth, or an office that is filled by 117 appointment and is exempt from the Virginia Personnel Act (§ 2.2-2900 et seq.); or (iii) an office of a 118 119 county, city, or other political subdivision of the Commonwealth that is filled by an election process involving nomination and election of candidates on a partisan basis. 120

121 "Political party office" means an elective office in the national or state organization of a political 122 party, as defined in § 24.2-101.

123 § 30-377. Membership; terms; vacancies; chairman; quorum; compensation and expenses.

124 A. The Virginia Redistricting Commission shall consist of 16 commissioners that include eight 125 legislative commissioners and eight citizen commissioners as follows: two commissioners shall be 126 members of the Senate of Virginia, representing the political party having the highest number of members in the Senate and appointed by the President pro tempore of the Senate; two commissioners 127 128 shall be members of the Senate, representing the political party having the next highest number of 129 members in the Senate and appointed by the leader of that political party; two commissioners shall be 130 members of the House of Delegates, representing the political party having the highest number of 131 members in the House of Delegates and appointed by the Speaker of the House of Delegates; two 132 commissioners shall be members of the House of Delegates, representing the political party having the next highest number of members in the House of Delegates and appointed by the leader of that political 133 134 party; and eight citizen commissioners who shall be selected by the Redistricting Commission Selection 135 *Committee pursuant to § 30-379.*

B. Legislative commissioners selected to serve as commissioners of the Virginia Redistricting
Commission shall be appointed by the respective authorities no later than December 1 of the year
ending in zero and shall continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Appointments to fill
vacancies, other than by expiration of a term, shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled
in the same manner as the original appointment, such that the proper partisan balance of the
Commission is maintained.

C. Citizen commissioners selected to serve as commissioners of the Virginia Redistricting
Commission shall be selected by the Redistricting Commission Selection Committee as provided in
\$ 30-379. They shall be appointed no later than January 15 of the year ending in one and shall
continue to serve until their successors are appointed. Appointments to fill vacancies, other than by
expiration of a term, shall be for the unexpired terms. Vacancies shall be filled by the Committee by
selecting a replacement from the list submitted pursuant to subsection E of § 30-379 from which his
predecessor was selected.

D. Legislative commissioners shall receive such compensation as provided in § 30-19.12 and citizen commissioners shall receive such compensation as provided in § 2.2-2813 for their services. All members shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. All such compensation and expense payments shall come from existing appropriations to the Commission.

E. By February 1 of the year ending in one, the Commission shall hold a public meeting at which it shall select a chairman from its membership. The chairman shall be a citizen commissioner and shall be responsible for coordinating the work of the Commission. A majority of the commissioners appointed, which majority shall include a majority of the legislative commissioners and a majority of the citizen commissioners, shall constitute a quorum.

F. The Commission shall hire a qualified expert political or social scientist for purposes of
conducting complete racial voting analysis reports and reviewing proposed plans for compliance with
the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth
Amendment of the Constitution of the United States, pursuant to subsection D of § 30-382. Such hiring
shall require a majority vote of the Commission, which majority shall include majority of the legislative
commissioners and a majority of the citizen commissioners.

G. All meetings and records of the Commission shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act
(§ 2.2-3700 et seq.), except as provided in subsection E of § 30-379. All records and documents of the
Commission, or any individual or group performing delegated functions of or advising the Commission,
related to the Commission's work, including internal communications and communications from outside
parties, shall be considered public information.

170 § 30-378. Redistricting Commission Selection Committee; chairman; quorum; compensation and 171 expenses.

A. There shall be a Redistricting Commission Selection Committee established for the purpose of
selecting the citizen commissioners of the Virginia Redistricting Commission. This committee shall
consist of five retired judges of the circuit courts of Virginia.

B. By November 15 of the year ending in zero, the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Virginia
shall certify to the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the leader in the House of Delegates of the
political party having the next highest number of members in the House of Delegates, the President pro
tempore of the Senate of Virginia, and the leader in the Senate of Virginia of the political party having
the next highest number of members in the Senate of Virginia a list of retired judges of the circuit
courts of Virginia who are willing to serve on the Committee. These members shall each select a judge
from the list and promptly, but not later than November 20, communicate their selection to the Chief

200

182 Justice, who shall immediately notify the four judges selected. Within three days of being notified of 183 their selection, the four judges shall select, by a majority vote, a judge from the list prescribed herein to

184 serve as the fifth member of the Committee, who shall serve as the chair of the Committee. 185

A majority of the judges, which majority shall include the chair, shall constitute a quorum.

186 The judges of the Committee shall serve until their successors are appointed. If a judge cannot, for 187 any reason, complete his term, the remaining judges shall select a replacement from the list prescribed 188 herein.

189 C. Members of the Committee shall receive compensation for their services and shall be allowed all 190 reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as provided in 191 §§ 2.2-2813 and 2.2-2825. The compensation and expenses of members and all other necessary expenses 192 of the Committee shall be provided from existing appropriations to the Commission.

193 D. All meetings and records of the Committee shall be subject to the Freedom of Information Act (§ 194 2.2-3700 et seq.), except as provided in subsection E of § 30-379.

195 E. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 1-210 regarding the computation of time, if an act required by 196 this section is to be performed on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday or any day or part of a day on 197 which the government office where the act to be performed is closed, the act required shall be 198 performed on the first business day immediately preceding the Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, or 199 day on which the government office is closed.

§ 30-379. Citizen commissioners; application process; qualifications; selection.

201 A. Within three days following the selection of the fifth member of the Committee, the Committee 202 shall adopt an application and process by which residents of the Commonwealth may apply to serve on 203 the Commission.

204 The application for service on the Commission shall require applicants to provide personal contact 205 information and information regarding the applicant's (i) race, ethnicity, gender, age, date of birth, and 206 household income; (ii) voter registration status; (iii) education and employment history, including any current or prior employment with the Congress of the United States or one of its members, the General 207 208 Assembly or one of its members, or a campaign for local, state, or federal office; (iv) history of any 209 partisan public offices or political party offices held or sought; and (v) relatives who are or have been 210 a member of the Congress of the United States or of the General Assembly.

211 The Committee may direct applicants to provide information regarding the applicant's qualifications 212 to serve on the Commission, or any involvements with, or financial contributions to, professional, social, 213 political, volunteer, and community organizations and causes.

214 The Committee may require applicants to submit three letters of recommendation from individuals or 215 organizations.

216 The application process shall provide for both paper and electronic or online applications. The Committee shall cause to be advertised throughout the Commonwealth information about the 217 218 Commission and how interested persons may apply.

219 B. To be eligible for service on the Commission, a person shall be a qualified voter of the 220 Commonwealth. No person shall be eligible for service on the Commission who: 221

1. Holds or has held partisan public office or political party office;

222 2. Is a relative of or is employed by a member of the Congress of the United States or of the 223 General Assembly or is employed directly by the United States Congress or by the General Assembly; 224

3. Is employed by or has been employed by any local, state, or federal campaign; or

225 4. Is a lobbyist registered pursuant to Article 3 (§ 2.2-418 et seq.) of Chapter 4 of Title 2.2 or a 226 lobbyist's principal as defined in § 2.2-419.

227 Č. The application period shall begin no later than December 1 of the year ending in zero and shall 228 end four weeks after the beginning date. During this period, interested persons shall submit a completed 229 application and any required documentation to the Division of Legislative Services. The Division of 230 Legislative Services shall make available the application for persons to use when submitting a paper 231 application and shall provide electronic access for electronic submission of applications.

232 D. Within two days of the close of the application period, the Division of Legislative Services shall 233 provide to the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the leader in the House of Delegates of the political 234 party having the next highest number of members in the House of Delegates, the President pro tempore 235 of the Senate of Virginia, and the leader in the Senate of Virginia of the political party having the next 236 highest number of members in the Senate of Virginia the applications and documentation submitted by 237 those applicants who are eligible for service on the Commission pursuant to subsection B and submitted 238 complete applications, including any required documentation.

239 E. By January 1 of the year ending in one, those persons receiving the applications pursuant to 240 subsection D shall each submit to the Committee a list of at least 16 citizen candidates for service on the Commission. They shall also notify the Division of Legislative Services of the citizen candidates 241 242 submitted to the Committee for consideration and the Division of Legislative Services shall promptly provide to the Committee the applications and documentation for each citizen candidate being 243

244 considered. The applications and documentation for each citizen candidate shall be maintained as public 245 records.

246 F. Within two weeks of receipt of the lists of citizen candidates and related materials pursuant to 247 subsection E, the Committee shall select, by a majority vote in a public meeting, two citizen members 248 from each list submitted. In making its selections, the Committee shall give consideration to the racial, 249 ethnic, and geographic diversity of the Commonwealth. The Committee shall promptly notify those eight 250 citizens of their selection to serve as citizen commissioners of the Commission.

251 G. Notwithstanding the provisions of § 1-210 regarding the computation of time, if an act required 252 by this section is to be performed on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday or any day or part of a day 253 on which the government office where the act to be performed is closed, the act required shall be 254 performed on the first business day immediately preceding the Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, or 255 day on which the government office is closed.

256

§ 30-380. Staff to Virginia Redistricting Commission; census liaison.

257 A. The Division of Legislative Services shall provide staff support to the Commission. Staff shall 258 perform those duties assigned to it by the Commission. The Director of the Division of Legislative 259 Services, or his designated representative, shall serve as the state liaison with the United States Bureau 260 of the Census on matters relating to the tabulation of the population for reapportionment purposes 261 pursuant to P.L. 94-171. The governing bodies, electoral boards, and registrars of every county and 262 municipality shall cooperate with the Division of Legislative Services in the exchange of all statistical 263 and other information pertinent to preparation for the census.

264 B. The Division of Legislative Services shall maintain the current election district and precinct 265 boundaries of each county and city as a part of the Commission's computer-assisted mapping and 266 redistricting system. Whenever a county or city governing body adopts an ordinance that changes an election district or precinct boundary, the local governing body shall provide a copy of its ordinance, 267 along with Geographic Information System (GIS) maps and other evidence documenting the boundary, 268 to the Division of Legislative Services. 269

270 C. The Division of Legislative Services shall prepare and maintain a written description of the 271 boundaries for the congressional, senatorial, and House of Delegates districts set out in Article 2 272 (§ 24.2-302.2 et seq.) of Chapter 3 of Title 24.2. The descriptions shall identify each district boundary, 273 insofar as practicable, by reference to political subdivision boundaries or to physical features such as 274 named roads and streets. The Division of Legislative Services shall furnish to each general registrar the 275 descriptions for the districts dividing his county or city. The provisions of Article 2, including the 276 statistical reports referred to in Article 2, shall be controlling in any legal determination of a district 277 boundary. 278

§ 30-381. Public participation in redistricting process.

279 A. Prior to proposing any plan for districts for the United States House of Representatives, the 280 Senate, or the House of Delegates and prior to voting to submit such plans to the General Assembly, the 281 Commission shall hold at least three public hearings in different parts of the Commonwealth in order to 282 receive and consider comments from the public.

283 B. The Commission shall establish and maintain a website or other equivalent electronic platform. 284 The website shall be available to the general public and shall be used to disseminate information about 285 the Commission's activities. The website shall be capable of receiving comments and proposals by 286 citizens of the Commonwealth. Prior to voting on any proposed plan, the Commission shall publish the 287 proposed plans on the website. 288

§ 30-382. Proposal and submission of plans for districts.

289 A. The Commission shall submit to the General Assembly plans for districts for the Senate and the 290 House of Delegates of the General Assembly no later than 45 days following the receipt of census data.

291 To be submitted as a proposed plan for districts for members of the Senate, a plan shall receive 292 affirmative votes of at least six of the eight legislative commissioners, including at least three of the four 293 legislative commissioners who are members of the Senate, and at least six of the eight citizen 294 commissioners.

295 To be submitted as a proposed plan for districts for members of the House of Delegates, a plan shall 296 receive affirmative votes of at least six of the eight legislative commissioners, including at least three of 297 the four legislative commissioners who are members of the House of Delegates, and at least six of the 298 eight citizen commissioners.

299 B. The Commission shall submit to the General Assembly plans for districts for the United States 300 House of Representatives no later than 60 days following the receipt of census data or by the first day 301 of July of that year, whichever occurs first.

302 To be submitted as a proposed plan for districts for members of the United States House of Representatives, a plan shall receive affirmative votes of at least six of the eight legislative 303 304 commissioners and at least six of the eight citizen commissioners.

305 C. If the Commission fails to submit a plan for districts by the deadline set forth in subsection A or 306 B, the Commission shall have 14 days following its initial failure to submit a plan to the General 307 Assembly. If the Commission fails to submit a plan for districts to the General Assembly by this date, 308 the districts shall be established by the Supreme Court of Virginia pursuant to § 30-384.

309 D. All plans to be submitted to the General Assembly shall, prior to submission, be reviewed by a 310 qualified expert political or social scientist who shall have conducted complete racial voting analyses 311 reports on voting patterns in Virginia. The review of a proposed plan shall include standard statistical analyses for determining voting patterns by race and any other reports deemed necessary by the 312 313 Commission or the expert. These analyses shall demonstrate the degree to which the proposed plan 314 comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, as amended, and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. 315 316 § 30-383. Consideration of plans by the General Assembly; timeline.

317 A. All plans for districts for the Senate and the House of Delegates shall be embodied in and voted 318 on as a single bill.

319 B. All bills embodying plans for districts for the United States House of Representatives, the Senate, 320 or the House of Delegates shall be voted on by the General Assembly in accordance with the provisions 321 of Article IV, Section 11 of the Constitution of Virginia, except no amendments shall be permitted. All bills embodying a plan that are approved by both houses shall become law without the signature of the 322 323 Governor and, pursuant to Article II, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia, shall take effect 324 immediately.

325 C. Within 15 days of receipt of any plan for districts, the General Assembly shall take a vote on a 326 bill embodying such plan. If the General Assembly fails to adopt the bill by this deadline, the Commission shall submit a new plan for districts within 14 days of the General Assembly's failure to 327 adopt the bill. Within seven days of receipt of such plan, the General Assembly shall take a vote on the 328 bill embodying the plan, and if the General Assembly fails to adopt the plan by this deadline, the 329 330 districts shall be established by the Supreme Court of Virginia pursuant to § 30-384.

331 D. If the Commission submits a plan for districts pursuant to subsection C of § 30-382, the General 332 Assembly shall take a vote on such plan within seven days of its receipt. If the General Assembly fails 333 to adopt the plan by this deadline, the districts shall be established by the Supreme Court of Virginia 334 pursuant to § 30-384. 335

§ 30-384. Establishment of districts by the Supreme Court of Virginia.

336 A. In the event the Commission fails to submit a plan for districts by a deadline set forth in 337 § 30-382, or the General Assembly fails to adopt a plan for districts by the deadline set forth in 338 subsection C or D of § 30-383, the Supreme Court of Virginia (the Court) shall be responsible for 339 establishing the districts.

340 B. The Court shall, not later than March 1 of a year ending in one, enact rules and procedures as 341 may be necessary for implementing the requirements of Section 6-A of Article II of the Constitution of 342 Virginia, empowering the Court to establish congressional or state legislative districts as provided for in 343 that section. In enacting such rules and procedures, the Court shall ensure public participation in the 344 Court's redistricting deliberations is permitted.

345 C. The Court shall appoint a special master to assist the Court in the establishment of districts. Within one week of the Commission's failure to submit plans or the General Assembly's failure to adopt 346 347 plans, the Speaker of the House of Delegates, the leader in the House of Delegates of the political party 348 having the next highest number of members in the House of Delegates, the President pro tempore of the Senate of Virginia, and the leader in the Senate of Virginia of the political party having the next highest number of members in the Senate of Virginia shall confer and attempt to agree upon a nomination for 349 350 351 the position of special master. If such persons are able to agree on an appropriate nominee for special 352 master, the Court shall appoint such nominee to serve as the special master and to draw maps for the 353 establishment of districts. If such persons are unable to agree on an appropriate nominee for special 354 master, each shall submit a list of two or more nominees, along with a brief biography and resume for 355 each nominee, including the nominee's particular expertise or experience relevant to redistricting, and 356 the court shall, by a majority vote, appoint a nominee for a special master from the nominees submitted. 357 The person appointed to serve as special master shall have the requisite qualifications and experience to 358 serve as the special master and shall have no conflicts of interest. In making its appointment, the court 359 shall consider any relevant redistricting experience in the Commonwealth and any practical or academic 360 experience in the field of redistricting.

361 D. Within two weeks of his appointment, the special master shall submit to the court two or more proposed plans for districts. Such districts shall comply with the standards and criteria set forth in 362 Article II, Section 6 of the Constitution of Virginia. The court shall review the plans submitted and 363 shall, by a majority vote, adopt one proposed plan. Such plan shall become law and take effect 364 365 *immediately*.

366 § 30-386. Remedial redistricting plans. 367 If any congressional or state legislative district established pursuant to this chapter or the provisions
368 of Article II, Section 6 and Section 6-A of the Constitution of Virginia is declared unlawful or
369 unconstitutional, in whole or in part, by order of any state or federal court, the Commission shall be
370 convened to determine and propose a redistricting plan to remedy the unlawful or unconstitutional
371 district.
372 2. That the provisions of this act shall become effective on November 15, 2020, contingent upon

373 the passage of an amendment to the Constitution of Virginia on the Tuesday after the first

- 374 Monday in November 2020, establishing the Virginia Redistricting Commission by amending
- 375 Section 6 of Article II and adding in Article II a new section numbered 6-A.