# WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

### **2017 REGULAR SESSION**

### Introduced

## House Bill 2090

BY DELEGATE COWLES

[Introduced February 8, 2017; Referred

to the Committee on Political Subdivisions then the

Judiciary.]

INTRODUCED H.B.

2017R1782

A BILL to amend and reenact §7-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, relating to
 increasing the minimum number of magisterial districts in a county from three to four.
 Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

That §7-2-2 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, be amended and reenacted
to read as follows:

## ARTICLE 2. COUNTY AND DISTRICT BOUNDARIES; CHANGE OF COUNTY SEAT AND NAMES OF UNINCORPORATED TOWNS AND OF DISTRICTS.

#### §7-2-2. Magisterial districts; boundary lines.

1 Each county shall be laid off by the county court commission into magisterial districts, not 2 less than three four nor more than ten in number, and as nearly equal as may be in territory and 3 population. The districts as they now exist shall remain until changed by the county court 4 commission. The county court commission may, from time to time, increase or diminish the 5 number of such the districts, and change the boundary lines thereof of the districts as necessity 6 may require, in order to conform the same, them to the provisions of the Constitution of the State. 7 Whenever the county-court shall deem commission finds it advisable to change the 8 boundary line between two or more districts, or to establish a new district out of another or two or 9 more districts, or to consolidate two or more existing districts into one, it may make such the 10 change, establishment or consolidation, by an order entered of record. And if a survey be deemed 11 is necessary, it may employ the surveyor of lands for the county, or any other competent surveyor, 12 who shall survey and make a plat of the several districts as the same they are thus altered, on 13 which the new lines shall be plainly delineated, noting particularly such the places of notoriety or 14 prominent objects through or by which such the lines pass, and return such the plat and description to the court and the same county commission. The plat shall be filed in the clerk's 15 16 office of such court office of the clerk of the county commission and recorded by the clerk. But 17 before such the districts shall be are increased or diminished, or the boundary lines thereof

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- 18 changed, the court county commission shall cause a notice of its intention to do so to be posted
- 19 on the front door of the courthouse of the county, and at some public place in each district affected
- 20 thereby, for at least thirty days prior to the term of court the commission at which such this action
- 21 is proposed to be taken.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill is to increase the minimum number of magisterial districts in a county from three to four.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.