

ORDINANCE NO. _____ OF 2022

ORDINANCE DECLARING THE MALAPPORTIONMENT STATUS OF THE CURRENT DISTRICTING PLAN OF THE SINGLE MEMBER ELECTION DISTRICTS OF THE CITY OF RUSTON UTILIZING THE POPULATION DATA FROM THE 2020 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS; AND PROVIDING FOR ADOPTION OF A REDISTRICTING PLAN

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Aldermen of the City of Ruston are elected from single member districts; and,

WHEREAS, applying the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census to the current districting plan for the City reflects that there are districts that the exceed the acceptable population deviation under the principle of one-person-one-vote; and,

WHEREAS, Louisiana law requires that the City declare whether its existing districting plan is malapportioned following a federal decennial census.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF RUSTON, LOUISIANA:

§1. The current districting plan of single member election districts of the City is declared to be malapportioned utilizing the population data from the 2020 federal decennial census, and the City shall adopt a new districting plan for use in the next regularly scheduled election.

§2. The City authorizes and directs Strategic Demographics, L.L.C. to assist in creating a redistricting plan.

§3. The Mayor is authorized and empowered to execute all documents necessary to facilitate the creation of a redistricting plan and to do any and all things necessary and proper to carry out this Ordinance and to fulfill its objects and purposes.

§4. If any one or more of the provisions of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be held to be illegal or invalid, such illegality or invalidity shall not affect any other provision of this Ordinance, but this Ordinance shall be construed and enforced as if such illegal or invalid provisions had not been contained herein. Any constitutional or statutory provision enacted after the date of this Ordinance which validates or makes legal any provision of this Ordinance which would not otherwise be valid or legal, shall be deemed to apply to this Ordinance.

§5. This Ordinance shall become effective upon final adoption and publication of the same in the manner prescribed by law.

This Ordinance was introduced on _____, by Alderman _____, Notice of Public Hearing was published on _____, _____, and _____ and said public hearing having been held, the title having been read and the Ordinance considered, on motion to adopt, as amended, by Alderman _____, seconded by Alderman _____, a record vote was taken and the following result was had:

YEA:

NAY:

ABSENT:

WHEREUPON, the presiding officer declared the above Ordinance duly adopted on the _____ day of January, 2022.

DRAFT – 12/28/2021

ATTEST:

JULIE K. SPEIR, CLERK

RONNY WALKER, MAYOR