

BEFORE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF LANE COUNTY, OREGON

ORDINANCE NO: 21- 03

IN THE MATTER OF ADOPTING A
REDISTRICTING ORDINANCE AS
REQUIRED BY THE LANE COUNTY
HOME RULE CHARTER CHAPTER III
SECTION 10(e); ADOPTING A SAVINGS
AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSE

WHEREAS, Lane County is governed by the Lane County Home Rule Charter approved by the voters at the November 6, 1962 General Election; and,

WHEREAS, the Lane County Home Rule Charter Chapter III Sections 10(d) and 10(e) require the Board of Commissioners in accordance with federal census figures to redraw the boundaries for the five (5) commissioner districts; and,

WHEREAS, the Lane County Home Rule Charter Chapter III, Section 10(d) requires the Board of Commissioners to engage in the review of the boundaries for the five (5) commissioner districts not less than every ten (10) years; and,

WHEREAS, the Lane County Home Rule Charter Chapter III, Section 10(e) requires the Board of Commissioners to adopt the five (5) commissioner districts by ordinance not less than every ten (10) years; and,

WHEREAS, the last ordinance creating the boundaries for the five (5) commissioner districts was adopted on by the Board of Commissioners on October 26, 2011; and,

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization has declared COVID-19 a global pandemic; and,

WHEREAS, the President of the United States has declared COVID-19 to be a national emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the Governor of Oregon has declared COVID-19 a statewide public health emergency; and,

WHEREAS, the Lane County Board of Commissioners has declared COVID-19 a Lane County public health emergency on March 17, 2020 with Board Order 20-03-17-06 and extended the emergency declarations on multiple occasions; and,

WHEREAS, the National Center for Disease Control has issued guidelines related to COVID-19 which state that if individuals are in high-risk categories, they should follow recommended hygiene protocols, stay at home when ill, and follow social distancing practices whenever possible; and,

WHEREAS, COVID-19 poses and has posed a health risk to Lane County residents, visitors, and first responders which has extended for several months with historically high case counts; and,

WHEREAS, Lane County has experienced continued closures or restrictions to government and non-government services, and the cancellation of large gatherings of people, which has made the gathering of census data more difficult; and,

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2021 the United States Census Bureau advised the current timeline for delivering 2020 redistricting data to the states is September 30, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Oregon will need to perform certain redistricting work before Lane County can complete its redistricting plan; and,

WHEREAS, the amount of time between September 30, 2021 and October 26, 2021 is insufficient to permit a complete and thoughtful review of population densities to permit the creation of commissioner district boundaries so as not to deny any person equal protection of the law; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners will adopt contemporaneously with this ordinance an ordinance creating a special redistricting committee whose sole function will be to use the 2020 census data gathered by the United States Census Bureau to create the boundaries for the five (5) commissioner districts as required by the Lane County Home Rule Charter; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is only adopting this Ordinance to comply with the timelines required by the Lane County Home Rule Charter for redistricting, but which have been made impossible by the pandemic which has delayed the distribution of 2020 Census data; and,

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners fully intends to adopt an ordinance as required by the Lane County Home Rule charter based upon a plan developed by the special redistricting committee using the 2020 Census data; and,

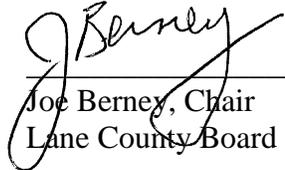
WHEREAS, this Ordinance has been reviewed through Lane County's equity lens and has been approved for adoption;

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Lane County **ORDAINS** as follows:

1. For the sole purpose of complying with the timelines established by the Lane County Home Rule Charter Chapter III Section 10(e) the boundaries of the five (5) Lane County Commissioner districts shall remain as established in the attached Ordinance 9-11.
2. These boundaries shall only remain in effect until new Lane County Commissioner district boundaries are adopted by the Board of Commissioners based upon a plan developed by the special redistricting committee using the 2020 Census data and created by separate ordinance this day. The new district boundaries shall be created by the redistricting committee using the 2020 Census data, and the ordinance

required by the Lane County Home Rule Charter shall be completed with one year from the date the 2020 Census data is received by the State of Oregon.

ENACTED this 8th day of June, 2021



Joe Berney, Chair
Lane County Board of Commissioners



Recording Secretary for this Meeting of the Board