

requirement that independent candidates for President and Vice-President file nominating petitions by March 20 in order to qualify for the November ballot.¹⁹¹⁵

Apportionment and Districting.—Prior to 1962, attacks in federal courts on the drawing of boundaries for congressional¹⁹¹⁶ and legislative election districts or the apportionment of seats to previously existing units ran afoul of the “political question” doctrine.¹⁹¹⁷ *Baker v. Carr*,¹⁹¹⁸ however, reinterpreted the doctrine to a considerable degree and opened the federal courts to voter complaints founded on unequally populated voting districts. *Wesberry v. Sanders*¹⁹¹⁹ found that Article I, § 2, of the Constitution required that, in the election of Members of the House of Representatives, districts were to be made up of substantially equal numbers of persons. In six decisions handed down on June 15, 1964, the Court required the alteration of the election districts for practically all the legislative bodies in the United States.¹⁹²⁰

conventions simultaneously with the primary elections the cost of which they had to bear. For consideration of similar contentions in the context of federal financing of presidential elections, see *Buckley v. Valeo*, 424 U.S. 1, 93–97 (1976).

¹⁹¹⁵ *Anderson v. Celebrezze*, 460 U.S. 780 (1983). State interests in assuring voter education, treating all candidates equally (candidates participating in a party primary also had to declare candidacy in March), and preserving political stability, were deemed insufficient to justify the substantial impediment to independent candidates and their supporters.

¹⁹¹⁶ This subject is also discussed under Article I, Section 2, Congressional Districting.

¹⁹¹⁷ See discussion, *supra*. Applicability of the doctrine to cases of this nature was left unresolved in *Smiley v. Holm*, 285 U.S. 355 (1932), and *Wood v. Broom*, 287 U.S. 1 (1932), was supported by only a plurality in *Colegrove v. Green*, 328 U.S. 549 (1946), but became the position of the Court in subsequent cases. *Cook v. Fortson*, 329 U.S. 675 (1946); *Colegrove v. Barrett*, 330 U.S. 804 (1947); *MacDougall v. Green*, 335 U.S. 281 (1948); *South v. Peters*, 339 U.S. 276 (1950); *Hartsfield v. Sloan*, 357 U.S. 916 (1958).

¹⁹¹⁸ 369 U.S. 186 (1962).

¹⁹¹⁹ 376 U.S. 1 (1964). Striking down a county unit system of electing a governor, the Court, in an opinion by Justice Douglas, had already coined a variant phrase of the more popular “one man, one vote.” “The conception of political equality from the Declaration of Independence to Lincoln’s Gettysburg Address, to the Fifteenth, Seventeenth, and Nineteenth Amendments can mean only one thing—one person, one vote.” *Gray v. Sanders*, 372 U.S. 368, 381 (1963).

¹⁹²⁰ *Reynolds v. Sims*, 377 U.S. 533 (1964); *WMCA, Inc. v. Lomenzo*, 377 U.S. 633 (1964); *Maryland Comm. for Fair Representation v. Tawes*, 377 U.S. 656 (1964); *Donis v. Mann*, 377 U.S. 678 (1964); *Roman v. Sincock*, 377 U.S. 695 (1964); *Lucas v. Forty-Fourth General Assembly of Colorado*, 377 U.S. 713 (1964). In the last case, the Court held that approval of the apportionment plan in a vote of the people was insufficient to preserve it from constitutional attack. “An individual’s constitutionally protected right to cast an equally weighed vote cannot be denied even by a vote of a majority of a State’s electorate, if the apportionment scheme adopted by the voters fails to measure up to the requirements of the Equal Protection Clause.” *Id.* at 736. In *Reynolds v. Sims*, Justice Harlan dissented wholly, denying that the Equal Protection Clause had any application at all to apportionment and districting and contending that the decisions were actually the result of a “reformist” nonjudicial