The Indiana Election Commission, meeting on June 23, 2017, adopted the following procedures and deadlines for the submission and consideration of proposed plans for the consolidation of “small precincts” in Lake County, pursuant to Public Law 262-2017:

(1) Noon, Indianapolis time, on Thursday, July 13, 2017 is the deadline for a member of the Lake County Board of Elections and Voter Registration, director or deputy director of the Lake County Board of Elections and Voter Registration, or Lake County Democratic, Republican, or Libertarian party chairs to submit proposed precinct consolidation plans to the Indiana Election Division. A plan must include maps depicting the proposed consolidations. The maps must be in paper form to permit the prompt distribution of the maps by the Division to members and the public. The plan must be accompanied by an IEC-8 Precinct Summary Form for each affected precinct, and may include a narrative setting forth any additional information that explains why the specific consolidations are proposed. As required by IC 3-6-5.2-10(d)(1), only those precincts with fewer than 600 active voters (as defined in IC 3-11-18.1-2) may be targeted for consolidation, and it is recommended that any proposed consolidated precinct should not exceed 1,200 active voters (as defined in IC 3-11-18.1-2).

(2) If a timely submitted plan does not contain maps of the proposed consolidations in paper format or does not contain the IEC-8 Precinct Summary forms, the Election Division will notify the Commission of this submission, so that this information can be included in the record, but the proposed plan will not be considered further. Other than an agreed plan and order by the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration, plans submitted after the July 13, 2017, deadline will not be considered or entered in to the record. The deadline for submission of a plan by the Lake County Board of Elections is noon, Indianapolis time, August 1, 2017.
(3) As soon as possible after a proposed plan is filed with the Election Division, the Division will post the plan on its website, along with a notice concerning the opportunity for public comment, which may be submitted in written form, or in person at the Commission’s August 9, 2017 meeting.

(4) Since the Commission is acting as a legislative body to adopt a precinct consolidation plan, a plan may also be submitted by a Commission member. Plans proposed by Commission members are not bound by the noon, July 13, 2017, deadline.

(5) A proposed plan submitted by any party noted in section (1) of this document may be modified by the Commission in the order adopting plan.

(6) The Commission will schedule a meeting on Wednesday, August 9, 2017, at 1:30 p.m. EDT, in Room 233 of the State House, 200 West Washington Street, Indianapolis, to review and discuss proposed plans and may adopt a final order establishing consolidated precincts.

(7) The Election Division shall post these procedures on its website, and provide a copy to each member of the Lake County Board of Elections and Registration.

(8) These procedures take effect immediately upon adoption by the Indiana Election Commission.

ADOPTED, this 23rd DAY OF JUNE, 2017.

THE INDIANA ELECTION COMMISSION