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**TWO MORE CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS
COULD CHANGE HANDS UNDER 1994 POPULATION ESTIMATES,
NEW ELECTION DATA SERVICES, INC. STUDY SAYS**

An Election Data Services, Inc. apportionment study based on 1994 state population estimates issued Tuesday by the U.S. Census Bureau shows that if Congressional reapportionment were to occur today, two more congressional districts would shift between states compared to a similar study last year. The 1994 estimates show that the states of Montana and Texas would each gain a congressional district with the loss suffered by Connecticut and New York.

In total, five congressional seats would be shifted under the 1994 estimates. In addition to Montana and Texas, the states of Arizona, California, and Georgia would each gain an a seat. Besides Connecticut and New York, the other states which would lose a congressional district include Mississippi, Oklahoma and Pennsylvania. (A copy of the study results are attached.)

Upon further review, the new population estimates also highlight several other interesting and notable factors concerning apportionment *were these estimates to be used today for apportionment:*

- The capture of the additional congressional district by Montana would be a reversal of it's loss of a seat just four years ago in the official 1990 apportionment process. If these population estimates hold constant for the year 2000, the state would be the first in the nation's history to reclaim a second seat after dropping to an at-large status. Montana's potential gain was noted in the 1993 study when the state just missed gaining it's second seat by 667 people. The 1994

study places Montana's second seat at number 430 (out of a possible 435), having gained that seat with 10,399 people to spare.

- The shift of a congressional seat from New York to Texas corresponds to census estimates that Texas becomes the second largest state in population (behind California), while New York moves to the third largest. As a result, the Texas delegation to Congress would increase to 31 congress-persons, while New York would drop to just 30 representatives.

- Connecticut's foreseeable loss of a congressional district may occur by the slimmest of margins. The state just missed keeping it's sixth district, falling into seat number 436 by failing to have 4,286 additional people in the population estimates.

- California's hold on its additional seat continues to be even less sure than previous year's studies, as it's margin on the new 53rd seat shrank from over 200,000 in 1992, to just over 66,000 in 1993, and to only 41,000 in 1994. The state captured the last available seat in the 1994 study, seat number 435. If the current downward trend continues and California receives no additional seats in the next apportionment, it would represent the first time the Golden State delegation has not grown since 1850 -- just ten years after it's admission to the Union.

- Wisconsin, whose precarious position near the bottom of the apportionment list led it's representatives to resist efforts in 1990 to change the census enumeration process, actually finds the margin for its ninth and last Congressional district more than double from the 1993 study. The state's safety margin to maintain it's current number of seats rose to 8,392 people (from just 4,000 in the 1993 study) as it captured seat number 434 this year.

- The loss of a seat by New York was anticipated in last year's study as part of a continued lack of significant population gains in the large Rust Belt states of the Northeast. The states of Ohio and Illinois also saw the margin for their last seats continue to dwindle from 1993 to 1994. If the trend holds, the 2000 reapportionment could result in a continuation of the drain of seats from these states' already shrinking delegations.

- The state of Nevada, noted by the Census Bureau as having the largest population gain in the country in the past year, is very close to gaining it's third congressional district. The 1994 study reveals that the state was just 9,541 people short of capturing additional congressional representation.

Kimball Brace, President of Election Data Services, Inc., noted that the Census Bureau population estimates for 1994 failed to include any adjustment for the undercount documented in the 1990 Census. "With the Courts seemingly approving the adjustment process, and the Bureau integrating correction methods into it's 1995 test census, the final

2000 apportionment is bound to be effected" Brace said.

Election Data Services, Inc. is a political consulting firm in Washington, DC specializing in reapportionment, redistricting, and the Census. Copies of the complete study can be obtained by calling 202/789-2004.

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