THE LOUISIANA Legislature has completed reapportionment of the House of Representatives, approving an emergency act sponsored by Gov. Jimmie Davis to reseat the House within its present 105-member limit.

Now Jeff Davis Parish — which isn’t affected by the act — can sit back and watch the fireworks, which may prove nothing except that the legislators were right when they considered the whole thing a hot potato.

Davis signed the act into law Saturday, heading off a threat that a three-judge federal court would reapportion the House in answer to a taxpayers’ suit.

The legislators will meet at noon Thursday to end the special session called by Davis to handle reapportionment.

But they might be back soon for the 11th special session of the Davis administration, because of two factors: there have already been reports that attorneys will file suit in state courts to challenge the constitutionality of the new act, and there are strong indications that other taxpayer suits seeking a shakeup in the Senate seating will be filed.

The Davis-backed reapportionment act passed 76-24 in the House and 29-8 in the Senate.

But the six parishes which lost one representative each — Acadia, Avoyelles, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Landry andATCHITACHES, and Wards 3 and 11 of Orleans — are obviously unhappy over the outcome. Just as obviously, no complaints will be heard from the parishes which gained extra seats — two each for Orleans Ward 9 and East Baton Rouge, and one each for Caddo, Jefferson, Calcasieu and IBERBONNE.

J.D. DeBlieux, former state senator and now an attorney at Baton Rouge, who filed the federal suit, says he is happy with the outcome. But another taxpayer who filed suit, Thomas N. Lockwood of Baton Rouge, indicates a suit to force reapportionment of the Senate will be filed “just as soon as we can get some kind of a legal approach to it.”

A suit to force a shuffling of Senate seats according to the latest population figures will apparently be based upon Article 3, Section 3 of the state constitution, which says: “In every year in which the House is reapportioned, the legislature shall redistrict the senate.

Many observers feel, however, that the legality of Senate redistricting is not as clear under the constitution as was House reapportionment.

Further, if suits are filed challenging the legislature’s redistricting as it is expected, any move to reapportion the Senate would have to await the outcome of such suits.

Meanwhile, a taxpayer suit for shuffling the Senate might bring on another deadline such as the one faced by the legislature last week when they were considering House reapportionment.

It looks like an interesting summer — and the subject isn’t even been taken up yet by candidates for state offices who begin to run in dead earnest July 4 at the annual celebration in Lake Arthur.