

From the Secretary of States website, the number of voters by party:

- Number of Registered Voters in Ohio: 7,982,501
- Number of Registered Democrats: 947,027
- Number of Registered Republicans: 836,080
- Number of Registered Libertarians: 2,847
- Number of Unaffiliated Registered Voters: 6,196,547

According to the Ohio Secretary of States website, Democrats outnumber Republicans and with over 6,000,000 unregistered voters one would think that the district maps would fairly reflect the population. But apparently not in Ohio as this commission continues down the gerrymander road to rig the districts in favor of one party.

You are here to represent the people, not to serve your personal or political party's interests. The map that has been displayed appears worse than those that came before it that were ruled unconstitutional by the courts. The state has continued to illegally ignore those rulings and violate the law. This commission is preventing fair elections and I find it disgraceful that you would continue on this path. You must be fearful that with a balanced map that you cannot retain the majority and the power that comes with it. The people of Ohio stopped you from making matters worse by voting against Issue 1 in August.

Rather than continuing to rig our elections in Ohio maybe what you should do is look inward and realize that if you can't win with a fair district map, something is likely wrong with your agenda. Maybe it doesn't represent the hopes and desires of the people that you are supposed to be representing. Do you want the people to remember you for gerrymandering or for stepping up and making sure their votes fully count and are not diluted by your map.

Prior to the August vote on Issue 1, I attended a rally where my representative, Steve Demetriou was speaking. The crowd was ready to vote no which wasn't a surprise. But one participant mentioned gerrymandering and then a gentleman in the back stood up and asked when the Republicans were going to fix the map that was ruled unconstitutional.

Steve's response: "What is one man's gerrymandering is another man's redistricting." How insulting and he should be ashamed. He knows that what is occurring is wrong and he never gave this gentleman a clear answer.

Last, if this commission really wants public input, you need to put out a message to all the television stations with dates and times that allow enough lead time for the message to be received.