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MY STATEMENT....

### Redistricting Commission of Ohio:

Historically, both parties have been guilty of gerrymandering, and no matter which party does it, it undermines our democracy. With today's advanced technology, though, computer programs can be so precise that the resulting gerrymandered districts are extremely effective, and many times more detrimental to our democracy than gerrymandering of the past.

Past generations have fought and died for our democracy. None of us should take our democracy for granted. The freedom we all enjoy today is precariously linked and dependent on us maintaining our democracy. I do not want to live in a country that does not have a democracy! I cherish our democracy, and I will fight to preserve it, and for future generations to enjoy. Today that means that I fight to honor the wishes of more than 70% of the voters in Ohio that voted to END gerrymandering in Ohio.

We have the freedom to choose our representatives, and we hope they will live up to the oaths they take to defend our constitution, which is also an integral element of our democracy. Soon, you elected representatives of Ohio, and members of the Redistricting Commission, have the responsibility to redraw our state's new legislative districts for the Ohio House and Senate, and for Ohio's 15 congressional districts, which will be in place for the next 10 years.

In my opinion, what you come up with as the official redistricting map of Ohio, will reveal whether you stand for a strong and stable democracy for our country, or if you just stand for the interest of your party being in power. We will also see if you honor and respect those that have fought and died for our country, our democracy, and our freedom.

The political party leading our state and country should be in power because the majority of the voters want the policies of that political party more than the policies of another party, NOT because gerrymandering put and keeps them in power. Anything less is corruption, and it is a threat to our democracy, constitution, and our freedom.

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