

## **Testimony for Ohio Redistricting Hearing on August 23, 2021**

### **Proposed Ohio House of Representatives District**

My name is Gerald Barna. I have been a resident of city of Avon, Ohio for 18 years and lived in Lorain County for over 50 years. I was a senior manager at the NASA Glenn Research Center and retired in 2003 after 40 years of service. After retirement I was a consultant for a number of small companies and non-profit organizations for 15 years.

Avon is in the 57<sup>th</sup> House District with communities which are largely different from Avon. Further, there are other communities similar to Avon in Lorain County which are in other Districts. For example, Avon and Avon Lake are adjacent to each other and are essentially "twin cities", being largely residential but having a major emphasis on industrial development . Yet they are currently in different Districts. In addition to Avon Lake, other communities in Lorain County similar to Avon and also adjacent to or in close proximity to Avon include North Ridgeville, Sheffield, Sheffield Lake and Elyria. The 57<sup>th</sup> District is not compact and has convoluted boundaries. The citizens of Avon and the State of Ohio would be better served having a District consisting of a more logical set of communities with more coherent boundaries.

I suggest a District which includes the following communities in their entirety: Avon, Avon Lake, North Ridgeville, Sheffield, Sheffield Lake and Elyria. I believe this District would eliminate the issues for Avon and its residents highlighted above. I request that this option be entered into the record, seriously considered, and adopted as part of Ohio's 2021 Redistricting. Finally, I urge the Commission to closely follow the requirements and criteria set for redistricting in Federal and State law in establishing Ohio's House Districts as you complete this critical effort. Thank you.

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8/21/21