

Testimony in support of fair district maps and ending gerrymandering

Members of the Redistricting Commission:

I am a voter from Cleveland Heights and an active participant in the electoral process, having worked as a poll observer. I care deeply about fair maps because I want every voter's voice to be heard. Our democracy relies on fairness and real representation. When ANY political party manipulates voting maps in order to hold onto power, the people suffer. We must end gerrymandering and create a real democracy where every voter's voice is heard. Ohio voters agree—those of all political persuasions overwhelmingly supported redistricting reforms in 2015 and again in 2018. Both reform efforts won in all 88 Ohio counties and by more than 70% of the vote.

Please keep redistricting fair, transparent, non-discriminatory and politically impartial. The public must be heard and everyone's voices included in this process. Keep communities together when drawing maps to create a better Ohio and fulfill the promise of the redistricting reforms in the Ohio Constitution. The process should be transparent, open, and bipartisan. Maps should serve the voters, not the interests of parties or candidates.

Thank you for your time and service!

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