

**Testimony on the Ohio Redistricting Commission's Officially Proposed Maps
From Julie Sweany, 9-13-2021**

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. My name is Julie Sweany. I vote in Ohio House District 13 and Ohio Senate District 23 in Lakewood.

The people of Ohio deserve fair, competitive districts that allow communities to elect legislators who represent them instead of letting elected officials hand pick their constituents.

The officially proposed maps of the Ohio Redistricting Commission fail to achieve this essential requirement.

The officially proposed maps are in flagrant violation of the spirit of, and many of the details of, the legally binding redistricting reforms passed overwhelmingly by Ohio voters in 2015 and 2018. Specifically, these maps:

- Create many districts that are non-compact, needlessly splitting counties and municipalities.
- Are ridiculously unproportional and not fairly representative, resulting in 67.67% of districts being Republican-leaning even though Republicans have won only 53.62% of votes in Ohio over the past 10 years.
- Result in an overwhelming number of seats being largely uncompetitive between the parties, leaving many Ohioans feeling that they have no real electoral choice.

As an Ohio voter and taxpayer, I demand that the Commission fully revamp these proposed maps to address the serious shortcomings above. I suggest that they take as models the winners of the citizens' mapping competition sponsored by Fair Districts Ohio.

The officially proposed maps are unacceptable. I and my fellow Ohioans simply will not stand for them and will seek every avenue possible to see that they are overturned and replaced with maps promoting fair, competitive districts in the spirit of the redistricting reforms passed by huge majorities of Ohioans.

Sincerely,
Julie Sweany
15305 Lanning Ave.
Lakewood, OH 44107