

September 13, 2021

Dear Redistricting Commissioners:

Thank you for allowing me to write regarding my opinion about the maps presented by the commission to the public. My name is Janet Kiplinger Ciccone. I live at 2587 Kent Road, in Upper Arlington, Ohio, 43221.

The main point I wish to make is that I do not believe these maps fairly represent me or anyone else as voters.

I urge you to redraw the maps to provide fair representation, to do the will of the majority of Ohio voters who passed legislation to draw new maps.

Here is a fact: These maps do not provide proportionality as required by rules in Article XI of the Ohio Constitution. As you know, those rules require that districts be proportional, or representationally fair. The districts' partisan makeup must reflect Ohio as a whole.

The districts in these maps fail to reflect Ohio's partisan makeup.

The districts to which I am relegated do not provide proportionality and are not compact, with strange cutouts here and there that cast a suspicion of gerrymandering.

Lack of fair districts effectively means that elected officials do not need to respond to the interests of the voters in their districts. This undermines democracy, which was the intent of our nation's founding fathers.

The consequences of not fixing this problem include continuing low turnout of voters because they believe their vote doesn't matter.

Further consequence is lack of need by elected officials to respond to the interests and concerns of voters in their districts. A representative or senator who is guaranteed a win when they run can do as the party directs them to benefit a few selected people and not to benefit all. Witness the recent debacle of First Energy.

Ultimately, not fixing our districts represents an erosion of our democracy, which degrades our country.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my request.

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City: Upper Arlington State: Ohio Zip: 43221 Date: 9-13-2021