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To the Co-Chairs Senators Hufmann and Sykes, and the Committee:

I oppose adoption of the proposed legislative redistricting maps proposed by the Senate and House Republican staff members. These redistricting maps fail to comply with the Ohio Constitution requirements that districts are proportional (**representationally fair**) and not gerrymandered.

Definition of **representational fairness** (as requested):

**Representational fairness IS achieved when:**

1. Each district's partisan makeup reflects Ohio as a whole, so that:
2. Voters in a district have a chance of electing their preferred statehouse candidate a percentage of the time that correlates with the split of partisan percentages voted statewide in the past decade of presidential elections.
3. Districts are not gerrymandered.

**Representational fairness is NOT achieved when:**

4. Ohio House districts are drawn that will likely have the effect of deleting existing minority party representatives (E.g., Rep. Miranda and Rep. Denson, as in the proposed ORC map).
5. Ohio districts are drawn that may actually exacerbate the discrepancy in the existing ratio of Democratic to Republican representatives. (E.g., From 34.7%D and 65.3%R to 32.32%D and 67.67%R in the ORC Map).
6. Ohio House districts maps are drawn that crack & pack communities of color (ORC Map)
7. Ohio House districts are oddly shaped, rather than compact (ORC Map)

The Democratic Senate and House staff members proposed map does a better job of allocating representational fairness, as do the prize-winning maps from the redistricting competition, but more work needs to be done to create maps that are compliant with all the rules in the Constitutional Amendment approved by 70% of Ohio voters

**The Ohio redistricting commission must hold further hearings, allowing time for in-depth discussions with redistricting scholars, legal experts and non-partisan organizations representing the voters, in order to comply with the constitution and uphold the foundation of a Democratic Republic: free and fair elections.**

Thank You,  
Ruth Hardy