

Redistricting Ohio Legislative voting maps

September 13, 2021

Dear Re-Districting Commission,

I am a registered voter in Bluffton, Ohio. I have anticipated the redistricting process because of the mandate created in the Ohio constitution by voters in 2015 and 2018. This mandate clearly states that the process of making maps must change: it must be transparent and it must result in fair districts. There are a number of criteria that have been identified to make maps fair. I am insistent that these fundamental baselines guide the district making process.

This has not happened in the process so far. My local acquaintances, Matt Huffman and Bob Cupp, how can you say that the process is transparent to the voters of Ohio? We do not know how the maps you propose were made. The job of the commission on which you sit is to deliberate openly and discuss the pros and cons of a given district. That has not happened in open forum.

Further, analysis of the actual maps you have proposed show that they continue the bias of the 2011 maps. They do not represent a substantive change in districts to greater fairness. Please open the process and allow criticism of the maps to make real changes so that we can have fair districts.

The public trust that you hold is for the people as a whole; it is not for the party you attend or your best friend. Do the right thing. Make your legacy service to the greater good.

Mitch Kingsley