



**Darlene Moorman**

**TESTIMONY OF:**

DARLENE MOORMAN

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**IN SUPPORT OF:**

Maps proposed by the Ohio Citizens' Redistricting Commission  
submitted to the Ohio Redistricting Commission

**[Cleveland, OH]** — Good afternoon, Co-Chair Cupp, Co-Chair Sykes and members of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, my name is Darlene Moorman and I am a resident of Cleveland. I have written this testimony because, like other everyday Ohioans, I am personally invested in and will be impacted by the redistricting process. Moving forward, Ohioans have been and will continue to be active and keeping up with the redistricting process and advocating for fair districts.

When faced with the question, overwhelmingly Ohioans answered loudly and clearly that they wanted fair maps in redistricting. When districts are gerrymandered, certain voices are systematically excluded or diluted (especially communities of color), and that is detestable for anyone believing in fairness and American values of democracy. When gerrymandering occurs, politicians pick their voters instead of how it should be, voters picking their politicians to represent them. We should be empowering the voices of the Ohio people including the marginalized. Not working to actively sweep them under the rug.

As a student, it is important for me for my elected officials to represent student interests in moving toward a more affordable education for everyone, regardless of race or income. Without such interests being pursued with the vigor they deserve, it will cost Ohio social mobility and the accessibility of education. Both of which are integral towards moving towards a more competitive and global economy in Ohio, one in which more people can succeed and participate.

Thank you for your time and keep in mind that us Ohioans will not stand for ten more years of gerrymandered maps. This means creating maps that accurately represent the political breakdown of the state and empower communities. It is vital that everyday Ohioans have the opportunity to provide input around redistricting and that the process is transparent and open for everyday working Ohioans.