

Testimony for Ohio Redistricting Hearing on August 27, 2021

I live in the 38th district. One only needs to look at the current map to see that my district is highly gerrymandered, to a ridiculous degree. I am not in the same district as other members of my local community in Massillon or Canton. Instead I am lumped with other far away communities, like Peninsula. My current district has definitely been picked apart for political gain, not kept together to represent our area properly.

You have an opportunity to correct this. I ask that you please fulfill the promise of the redistricting reforms placed into the Ohio Constitution.

I remind you that Ohioans overwhelmingly want fair maps. Voters from all political persuasions overwhelmingly supported redistricting reforms in 2015 and again in 2018. Both reform efforts won in all 88 Ohio counties and by more than 70% of the vote. It's clear that we Ohioans believe that maps should serve the voters - not the political interests of parties or candidates.

Please keep my community together when creating the new maps. I urge the Commission to closely follow the requirements and criteria set for redistricting in Federal and State law in establishing Ohio's House Districts as you complete this critical effort.

Thank you.

Jen Madaffer
44666