**Ohio Redistricting Commission - 8-6-2021**

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**Gov. Mike DeWine** [00:00:00] As a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, pursuant to Article 11, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution, I call this meeting to order. We will now proceed to the presentation of any member appointments to the Ohio Redistricting Commission and to order that any new appointments be entered into the record of proceedings. First, Robert Cupp is the appointee to the Commission by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. Let the record reflect this appointment. Next, Emilia Sykes the appointee to this commission by the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives. Let the record reflect this appointment. Next, Matt Huffman is the appointee to the commission by the President of the Senate. Let the record reflect this appointment. Next, Vernon Sykes is the appointee to this Commission by the Minority Leader of the Senate and again, let the record reflect that. I will state for the record that in compliance with the Ohio Constitution, none of the appointees are current members of Congress. We will now proceed to the administration of the oath and I will administer the oath to everyone and then the Secretary of State will then swear me in. I will get a copy of the oath. Please stand. I, state your name, (I, [inaubile], do solemnly swear (do solemnly swear) to support the Constitution of the United States, (to support the Constitution of the United States) and the Constitution of the State of Ohio (and the Constitution of the state of Ohio), and to faithfully discharge (and to faithfully discharge) the duties of the office, (the duties of the office) as a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, (as a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission) on which I serve (on which I serve) pursuant to Article 11, Section 1, (pursuant to Article 11, Section 1) of the Ohio Constitution (of the Ohio Constitution). This I shall do as I shall answer under God (this I shall do as I answer unto God) Thank you all very much.

**Secretary of State Frank LaRose** [00:02:30] At this point is my responsibility to administer the oath of office to the Governor. Governor, please raise your hand. I, Mike DeWine, (I, Mike DeWine) Do solemnly swear, (do solemnly swear) to support the Constitution of the United States (to support the Constitution of the United States) and the Constitution of the state of Ohio, (and the constitution of the state of Ohio) and to faithfully discharge the duties, (and to faithfully discharge the duties) of the office (of the office) as a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission, (as a member of the Ohio Redistricting Commission) on which I serve, (on which I serve) pursuant to Article 11, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution, (pursuant to Article 11, Section 1 of the Ohio Constitution). This I do, as I shall answer to God, (this I do, as I shall answer under God). Thank you very much.

**Gov. Mike DeWine** [00:03:20] And we ask now, Mr. Donahue, to please call the roll. President Huffman (here). Auditor Faber ( yes). Leader Sykes (here). Governor DeWine (here). Secretary LaRose (here), Speaker Cupp (present). Senator Sykes (present).

**Gov. Mike DeWine** [00:03:46] We have a quorum present. I will be filing the certificate of compliance of the public meeting notice provision of Section 121.22 of the revised code. Now we move to the presentation of co-chairperson appointments to the Ohio Redistricting Commission and the order that any new appointments be entered in the record of proceedings. The co-chair appointments to this commission by the legislative leaders in the Senate and the House of Representatives, each of the two largest political parties represented in the General Assembly, as set forth in Article 11, Section 1, of the Ohio Constitution are Robert Cupp and Vernon Sykes. Let the record reflect these appointments. Now. I will turn over the meeting to the co-chairpersons. Thank you all very much.

**Sen. Vernon Sykes** [00:04:46] Thank you, Governor and Mr. Co-Chair and members of the Commission. I'd like to welcome everyone here today. Ohioans voted twice this last decade to reform our redistricting process. My goal is to cooperatively work with all of you and give the voters what they wanted. To end as much as we can, the gerrymandering that's been taking place in the state. And we hope that we can work together to achieve fair districts through a bipartisan process in a way that maximizes public participation. Together, I believe we can end partisan gerrymandering and draw districts that result in fair districts of which represents the citizens of this great state. Mr. Co-Chair, would you like to make a statement?

**House Speaker Robert Cupp** [00:05:43] Thank you, Co-Chair Sykes. First, I'd like to thank Governor DeWine for convening the Commission and getting us on the way to creating a fair and equitable legislative and congressional maps as we are constitutionally charged to do. And I look forward to working with co-chair Senator Sykes and all the members of the commission as we undertake this very important task. As you know, we have an extremely tight time frame in which to complete our task due to the Census Bureau's four month delay in releasing the data necessary to begin drawing the maps. Regardless, we are here and ready to begin these, these hearings on this important project. We also know how vital it is to have the people of the state of Ohio actively involved in the process. Accordingly, we have tentatively scheduled nine meetings around the state to obtain input from Ohioans. We want to hear from them and to include them in this critical process. We will be finalizing the details for these meetings in the very near future. With that, I say to my fellow commission members and to the people of Ohio, let's go to work.

**Sen. Vernon Sykes** [00:06:59] Are there other members that would like to make statements? Seeing none, is there any other business that we need to address? Hearing none, any objections to, to adjourn? The meeting is so adjourned.