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Statement for submission in testimony to the Redistricting Commission:

I have lived in both rural and urban parts of this state. I have lived in predominantly Republican and predominantly Democrat communities. I reject the polarization that is going on today. I reject the ease with which candidates for office fall into demonizing their opponents. I yearn for a system and candidates who will earn my vote with thorough discussion of the issues facing our state and nation.

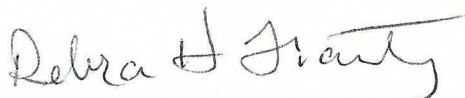
Having fair districts – districts that represent the voters proportionately and with margins that make elections true contests that can be won by either party – will give all of us better representation. Your proposed districts do not. In fact, the districts as proposed by the commission violate the first two intended goals as stated by the Ohio Constitution:

(A) No general assembly district plan shall be drawn primarily to favor or disfavor a political party.

(B) The statewide proportion of districts whose voters, based on statewide state and federal partisan general election results during the last ten years, favor each political party shall correspond closely to the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio.

The districts must be redrawn to produce the fairness in representation as called for in the state constitution. This state voted to end partisan gerrymandering. It is time for those in leadership to listen to the voters.

Respectfully,



Debra H Frantz