

**To:** Ohio Redistricting Commission

**Date:** September 12, 2021

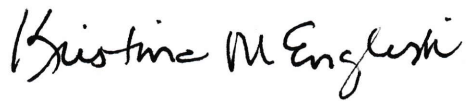
I moved to the State of Ohio in 2007 and even before I had unpacked all our boxes, I became aware of dissatisfaction regarding Ohio's legislative districts and its history of blatant gerrymandering. It was encouraging to see initiatives held in 2015 and 2018, wherein Ohioans overwhelmingly voted for two reform measures to overhaul the state's redistricting process. Unfortunately, the first proposed redistricting maps reflecting the 2020 census do not reflect the intent of the voters' will.

The public record shows that over the last 10 years, Republicans won just 55% of the statewide vote, and yet ended up with supermajorities in both state legislative chambers. Republicans currently hold 75% of Ohio Senate seats and 66% of Ohio House seats because of gerrymandering, a transparent power grab that has been soundly rejected by Ohio voters.

Ohio has twice gone to the polls to demand a **fair map**, proportionate to its electorate: that is, 55% Republican voters and 45% Democratic voters. **A fair map should result in at least 44 Democratic House seats, and at least 15 Democratic Senate seats.**

This process has been flawed to date (failing to meet the Constitutional deadlines for public hearings by September 1, providing limited time for public testimony during inconvenient hours, overall rushing the process), but there is still an opportunity to create a **fair map** and meet Ohioans' expectations.

Sincerely,



Kristina English, PhD