

It is imperative that the members of the Ohio Commission for Redistricting eliminate the extreme gerrymandered districts of the last map-drawing process. We must move Ohio beyond its current reputation as one of the most gerrymandered and politically corrupt states.

Gerrymandering has resulted in a supermajority that has:

- Endangered its citizens with anti-science public health policies,
- Undermined Ohio's public education system by taking school districts' general fund voted millage dollars away from them without any recourse,
- Threatened to curtail voting rights by taking away currently legal mail-in/absentee ballot voting options,
- Tolerated extreme corruption (e.g., First Energy/Larry Householder) within its elected representatives and their appointees,
- Allowed outside political groups such as ALEC to dictate legislative agendas for our state.

Therefore, we support the following principles be employed in the map-drawing process currently underway:

#### State Legislative Maps

- Contiguity and compactness,
- When possible, House districts should not split counties more than once,
- District population cannot vary more than 5% from its representation ratio,
- No maps can favor or disfavor one political party,
- The overall percentage of seats for each party should match the percentage of votes over the last 10 years
- And each Senate seat must consist of three House seats.
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#### Congressional Maps

- Contiguity and compactness
- 65 counties must be kept whole, 18 may be split once, 5 may be split twice, and map drawers can decide which counties to split
- Columbus must be split, Cleveland and Cincinnati cannot be split
- Map drawers shall attempt to include at least one whole county in each congressional district, unless it would otherwise violate federal law (voting rights laws)
- Any maps passed with a simple majority MUST meet the following rules:
  - No partisan gerrymander

- No undue splitting of political subdivisions
- Drawers must attempt compactness
- Drawers must release a statement explaining how these criteria were met

Thank you for working to include the voices of all of Ohio's citizens in future elections.

Sincerely,  
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