

**IN THE SUPREME COURT OF OHIO**

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LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS  
OF OHIO, *et al.*,

*Relators,*

v.

OHIO REDISTRICTING  
COMMISSION, *et al.*,

*Respondents.*

Case No. 2021-1193

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BRIA BENNETT, *et al.*,

*Relators,*

v.

OHIO REDISTRICTING  
COMMISSION, *et al.*,

*Respondents.*

Case No. 2021-1198

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THE OHIO ORGANIZING  
COLLABORATIVE, *et al.*,

*Relators,*

v.

OHIO REDISTRICTING  
COMMISSION, *et al.*,

*Respondents.*

Case No. 2021-1210

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**HISTORICAL RECORDS – APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS**

**Volume 1 of 1 (pages 1-125)**

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# HISTORICAL RECORDS – APPENDIX OF EXHIBITS

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2	H. J. R. No. 12, as adopted by the House	HIST_0009 – 0014
3	H. J. R. No. 12, as enrolled	HIST_0015 – 0024
4	Certified transcription of the Ohio House of Representatives' December 4, 2014 debate on H. J. R. No. 12	HIST_0025 – 0051
5	Certified transcription of the Ohio Senate's December 12, 2014 debate on H. J. R. No. 12	HIST_0052 – 0067
6	Certified transcription of the Ohio House of Representatives' December 17, 2014 debate on H. J. R. No. 12	HIST_0068 – 0093
7	Page 584 of the Final Edition of the Bulletin of the 130th General Assembly of the State of Ohio (2013-2014)	HIST_0094 – 0095
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10	Web archive of Yes On Issue 1! Fair Districts = Fair Elections' "Endorsements" page	HIST_0099 – 0115
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13	Secretary of State Frank LaRose's website's "Statewide Issue History" page	HIST_0121 – 0125

**As Introduced****130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014****H. J. R. No. 12****Representative Huffman****A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing to amend Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, and 13; 1  
to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new 2  
section number as indicated in parentheses, 3  
Section 13 (14); to enact new Section 13; and to 4  
repeal Section 14 of Article XI of the 5  
Constitution of the State of Ohio to revise the 6  
redistricting process for General Assembly 7  
districts. 8

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, 9  
three-fifths of the members elected to each house concurring 10  
herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the 11  
state, in the manner prescribed by law at the general election to 12  
be held on November 3, 2015, a proposal to amend Sections 1, 2, 6, 13  
7, 12, and 13; to amend, for the purpose of adopting a new section 14  
number as indicated in parentheses, Section 13 (14); and to enact 15  
new Section 13 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of 16  
Ohio to read as follows: 17

1. ~~The~~(A) The Ohio redistricting commission shall 18  
be responsible for the redistricting of this state for the general 19  
assembly. The commission shall consist of the following seven 20  
members: 21

(1) ~~The~~ The governor;; 22

(2) ~~The~~ The auditor of state;; 23

(3) ~~The~~ The secretary of state, ~~one~~; 24

(4) ~~One~~ One person ~~chosen~~ appointed by the speaker of the house 25

of representatives ~~and~~; 26

(5) ~~One person appointed by the leader in~~ president of the 27  
senate of the political party of which the speaker is a member, 28  
~~and one~~; 29

(6) ~~One person chosen~~ appointed by the legislative leaders ~~in~~ 30  
~~the two houses~~ leader of the ~~major~~ largest political party in the 31  
house of representatives of which the speaker is not a member 32  
~~shall be the persons responsible for the apportionment of this~~ 33  
~~state for members of the general assembly~~; 34

(7) One person appointed by the legislative leader of the 35  
largest political party in the senate of which the president of 36  
the senate is not a member. 37

~~Such persons, or a majority of their number, shall meet and~~ 38  
~~establish in the manner prescribed in this Article the boundaries~~ 39  
~~for each of ninety-nine house of representatives districts and~~ 40  
~~thirty-three senate districts. Such meeting shall convene on a~~ 41  
~~date designated by the governor between August 1 and October 1 in~~ 42  
~~the year one thousand nine hundred seventy-one and every tenth~~ 43  
~~year thereafter. The governor shall give such persons two weeks~~ 44  
~~advance notice of the date, time, and place of such meeting.~~ 45

~~The governor shall cause the apportionment to be published no~~ 46  
~~later than October 5 of the year in which it is made, in such~~ 47  
~~manner as provided by law.~~ 48

No appointed member of the commission shall be a current 49  
member of congress. 50

(B) Unless otherwise specified in this Article, a simple 51  
majority of the commission members shall be required for any 52  
action by the commission. Except as otherwise provided in Section 53  
14 of this Article, the affirmative vote of four members of the 54  
commission, including at least one member of the commission who is 55  
a member of the largest political party represented in the general 56  
assembly and at least one member of the commission who is a member 57  
of the second largest political party represented in the general 58  
assembly, shall be required to adopt any plan. 59

(C) At the first meeting of the commission, which the 60  
governor shall convene only in a year ending in the numeral one, 61  
except as provided in Sections 13 and 14 of this Article, the 62

members shall select co-chairpersons, one of whom shall be a member of the largest political party represented in the general assembly and one of whom shall be a member of the second largest political party represented in the general assembly, and shall set a schedule for the adoption of procedural rules for the operation of the commission.

The commission may release to the public a proposed plan for the boundaries for each of the ninety-nine house of representatives districts and the thirty-three senate districts. The commission shall draft a proposed plan in the manner prescribed in this Article. Before adopting a final general assembly district plan, the commission shall conduct a minimum of three public hearings across the state to seek public input regarding the redistricting process and any proposed plan. All meetings of the commission shall be open to the public. Meetings shall be broadcast by electronic means of transmission using a medium readily accessible by the general public, subject to the discretion of the commission.

The commission shall adopt a final plan not earlier than the last week of August of a year ending in the numeral one but not later than the thirty-first day of August of a year ending in the numeral one. After the commission adopts a plan, the commission shall file the plan with the secretary of state. Upon filing with the secretary of state, the plan shall become effective.

Not more than six weeks after the adoption of a general assembly plan, the co-chairpersons of the commission shall jointly dissolve the commission.

(D) The general assembly shall be responsible for making the appropriations it determines necessary in order for the commission to perform its duties under this Article.

**Section 2.** ~~The apportionment~~redistricting of this state for members of the general assembly shall be made in the following manner: The whole population of the state, as determined by the federal decennial census or, if such is unavailable, such other basis as the general assembly may direct, shall be divided by the number "ninety-nine" and the quotient shall be the ratio of representation in the house of representatives for ten years next succeeding such ~~apportionment~~redistricting. The whole population of the state as determined by the federal decennial census or, if such is unavailable, such other basis as the general assembly may

direct, shall be divided by the number "thirty-three" and the  
quotient shall be the ratio of representation in the senate for  
ten years next succeeding such ~~apportionment~~redistricting.

**Section 6.** District boundaries established pursuant to this  
Article shall not be changed until the ensuing federal decennial  
census and the ensuing ~~apportionment~~redistricting or as provided  
in section 13 or 14 of this Article, notwithstanding the fact that  
boundaries of political subdivisions or city wards within the  
district may be changed during that time. District boundaries  
shall be created by using the boundaries of political subdivisions  
and city wards as they exist at the time of the federal decennial  
census on which the ~~apportionment~~redistricting is based, or such  
other basis as the general assembly has directed.

**Section 7.** (A) Every house of representatives district shall  
be compact and composed of contiguous territory, and the boundary  
of each district shall be a single nonintersecting continuous  
line. ~~To~~

(B) The commission shall minimize the splitting of political  
subdivisions. As used in this section, "political subdivision"  
means a county, a municipal corporation, a township, or a  
municipal ward.

(1) Dividing a noncontiguous political subdivision shall not  
be considered splitting the political subdivision if its  
noncontiguous portions are included in separate districts.  
However, dividing a noncontiguous political subdivision shall be  
considered splitting the political subdivision if any  
noncontiguous portion is divided into separate districts.

(2) Dividing, along a county line, a political subdivision  
that has territory in more than one county shall not be considered  
splitting the political subdivision.

(C) To the extent consistent with the requirements of section  
3 of this Article, the boundary lines of house of representatives  
districts shall be so drawn as to delineate an area containing one  
or more whole counties.

~~(B)~~(D) Where the requirements of section 3 of this Article  
cannot feasibly be attained by forming a house of representatives  
district from a whole county or counties, such district shall be  
formed by combining the areas of ~~governmental units giving~~

~~preference in the order named to counties, townships,~~ 141  
~~municipalities, and city wards~~whole political subdivisions, other 142  
~~than a county.~~ 143

~~(C)(E).~~ Where the requirements of section 3 of this Article 144  
cannot feasibly be attained by combining the areas of ~~governmental~~ 145  
~~units~~whole political subdivisions, other than a county, as 146  
prescribed in division ~~(B)(D)~~ of this section, only one such ~~unit~~ 147  
political subdivision may be divided between two house of 148  
representatives districts, ~~giving preference in the selection of a~~ 149  
~~unit for division to a township, a city ward, a city, and a~~ 150  
~~village in the order named.~~ 151

~~(D)(F).~~ In making a new ~~apportionment~~redistricting plan, 152  
house of representatives district boundaries established by the 153  
preceding apportionment shall be adopted to the extent reasonably 154  
consistent with the requirements of section 3 of this Article. 155

**Section 12.** At any time the boundaries of senate districts 156  
are changed in any plan of ~~apportionment~~redistricting made 157  
pursuant to any provision of this Article, a senator whose term 158  
will not expire within two years of the time the plan of 159  
~~apportionment~~redistricting is made shall represent, for the 160  
remainder of the term for which ~~he~~the senator was elected, the 161  
senate district which contains the largest portion of the 162  
population of the district from which ~~he~~the senator was elected, 163  
and the district shall be given the number of the district from 164  
which the senator was elected. If more than one senator whose term 165  
will not so expire would represent the same district by following 166  
the provisions of this section, the ~~persons responsible for~~ 167  
~~apportionment~~commission, by a majority of ~~their~~its number, shall 168  
designate which senator shall represent the district and shall 169  
designate which district the other senator or senators shall 170  
represent for the balance of their term or terms. 171

13. (A) If the Ohio redistricting commission fails 172  
to adopt a final general assembly district plan not later than the 173  
thirty-first day of August of a year ending in a numeral one, in 174  
accordance with Section 1 of this Article, the following procedure 175  
shall apply: 176

(1) Not later than the twenty-third day of September of that 177  
year, the governor, the auditor of state, and the secretary of 178  
state, acting independently of the commission and by a simple 179  
majority vote of their number, shall create a general assembly. 180

district plan.

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(2) Not later than the thirtieth day of September of that year, the governor, the auditor of state, and the secretary of state shall call a meeting of the commission and shall provide the commission with a final opportunity to adopt the plan created under division (A)(1) of this section by the affirmative vote of four members of the commission, including at least one member of the commission who is a member of the largest political party represented in the general assembly and at least one member of the commission who is a member of the second largest political party represented in the general assembly, in accordance with Section 1 of this Article.

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(3) If the commission fails to adopt the plan created under division (A)(1) of this section not later than the first day of October of that year, the governor shall file the plan with the secretary of state. Upon filing with the secretary of state, the plan shall become effective.

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(B) A general assembly district plan that becomes effective under division (A)(3) of this section shall be effective for elections occurring in the year following the year in which the plan was adopted. At the general election conducted in that year, the following question shall be submitted to the electors of the state:

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"Shall the Ohio Redistricting Commission convene to draw new General Assembly districts?"

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(C) If a majority of the electors vote in favor of convening the commission to adopt a new general assembly district plan, the commission shall convene not earlier than the first day of February of the following year to adopt a plan in accordance with this Article. The commission shall draw the new plan using the same population and political subdivision and city ward boundary data as were used to draw the plan that became effective under division (A)(3) of this section.

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(D) If a majority of the electors vote against convening the commission to adopt a new general assembly district plan, the district plan that became effective under division (A)(3) of this section shall remain in effect until one-half of the general elections for the general assembly scheduled to occur during the period beginning after the election at which the electors voted

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not to convene the commission for the plan and ending in the next 220  
year ending in the numeral one have occurred. If an odd number of 221  
applicable elections are scheduled to occur during that period, 222  
the number of general elections to be held using the plan that 223  
became effective under division (A)(3) of this section shall be 224  
determined by rounding up to the next whole number. After a plan 225  
that became effective under division (A)(3) of this section ceases 226  
to be effective under this division, and not earlier than the 227  
first day of February of the year following the year in which the 228  
plan ceased to be effective, the commission shall convene to adopt 229  
a plan, in accordance with this Article, to be used until the next 230  
time for redistricting under this Article. The commission shall 231  
draw the new plan using the same population and political 232  
subdivision and city ward boundary data as were used to draw the 233  
plan that became effective under division (A)(3) of this section. 234

**Section 13 14.** (A) The supreme court of Ohio shall have 235  
exclusive, original jurisdiction in all cases arising under this 236  
Article. ~~In~~ 237

(B) In the event that any section of this Constitution 238  
relating to ~~apportionment~~redistricting or any plan of 239  
~~apportionment~~redistricting made by the ~~persons responsible for~~ 240  
~~apportionment, by a majority of their number,~~Ohio redistricting 241  
commission is determined to be invalid by ~~either the supreme court~~ 242  
~~of Ohio, or the supreme~~an unappealed final order of a court of 243  
~~the United States~~competent jurisdiction, then notwithstanding any 244  
other provisions of this Constitution, the ~~persons responsible for~~ 245  
~~apportionment by a majority of their number~~commission shall 246  
reconvene to ascertain and determine a plan of ~~apportionment~~ 247  
redistricting in conformity with such provisions of this 248  
Constitution as are then valid, including establishing terms of 249  
office and election of members of the general assembly from 250  
districts designated in the plan, to be used until the next 251  
regular ~~apportionment~~redistricting in conformity with such 252  
provisions of this Constitution as are then valid. 253

(C) Notwithstanding any provision of this Constitution or any 254  
law regarding the residence of senators and representatives, a 255  
plan of ~~apportionment~~redistricting made pursuant to this section 256  
shall allow thirty days for persons to change residence in order 257  
to be eligible for election. 258

~~The governor shall give the persons responsible for~~ 259  
~~apportionment two weeks advance written notice of the date, time,~~ 260

~~and place of any meeting held pursuant to this section.~~ 261

(D) No court shall order, in any circumstance, the 262  
implementation or enforcement of any plan that has not been 263  
approved by the commission in the manner prescribed by this 264  
Article. 265

#### EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL 266

If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this 267  
proposal, Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, and 13 (14) of Article XI 268  
amended or amended and renumbered by this proposal and new Section 269  
13 of Article XI enacted by this proposal take effect January 1, 270  
2021, and existing Sections 1, 2, 6, 7, 12, and 13 and Section 271  
14 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of 272  
Ohio are repealed from that effective date. 273

#### SCHEDULE 274

The amendments to Section 12 of Article XI of the Ohio 275  
Constitution in part substitute gender neutral for gender specific 276  
language. These gender neutralizing amendments are not intended to 277  
make a substantive change in the Ohio Constitution. The gender 278  
neutral language is to be construed as a restatement of, and 279  
substituted in a continuing way for, the corresponding gender 280  
specific language existing prior to adoption of the gender 281  
neutralizing amendments. 282

**As Adopted by the House**

**130th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2013-2014**

**Sub. H. J. R. No. 12**

**Representatives Huffman, Sykes**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Amstutz, Anielski, Ashford, Baker, Brown, Burkley, Clyde, Duffey, Grossman, Hackett, Hagan, C., Hayes, Kunze, Letson, McClain, McGregor, Patmon, Scherer, Schuring, Stebelton, Wachtmann Speaker Batchelder**

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**A JOINT RESOLUTION**

Proposing to enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article XI and to repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to revise the redistricting process for General Assembly districts.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, three-fifths of the members elected to each house concurring herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, in the manner prescribed by law at the general election to be held on November 3, 2015, a proposal to enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to read as follows:

**ARTICLE XI**

1. (A) The Ohio redistricting commission shall be responsible for the redistricting of this state for the general assembly. The commission shall consist of the following seven members:

(1) The governor;

(2) The auditor of state;

(3) The secretary of state;

(4) One person appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(5) One person appointed by the legislative leader of the largest political party in the house of representatives of which the speaker of the house of representatives is not a member;

(6) One person appointed by the president of the senate; and

(7) One person appointed by the legislative leader of the largest political party in the senate of which the president of the senate is not a member.

The legislative leaders in the senate and the house of representatives of each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly, acting jointly by political party, shall appoint a member of the commission to serve as a co-chairperson of the commission.

No appointed member of the commission shall be a current member of congress.

(B)(1) Unless otherwise specified in this article, a simple majority of the commission members shall be required for any action by the commission.

(2) A majority vote of the members of the commission, including at least one member of the commission who is a member of each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly, shall be required to do any of the following:

(a) Adopt rules of the commission;

(b) Hire staff for the commission;

(c) Expend funds.

(3) The affirmative vote of four members of the commission, including at least two members of the commission who represent each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly shall be required to adopt any plan. For the purpose of this division, a member of the commission shall be considered to represent a political party if the member was appointed to the commission by a member of that political party or if, in the case of the governor, the auditor of state, or the secretary of state, the member is a member of that political party.

(C) At the first meeting of the commission, which the governor shall convene only in a year ending in the numeral one, except as provided in Sections 9 and 10 of this article, the members shall set a schedule for the adoption of procedural rules for the operation of the commission.

The commission shall release to the public a proposed plan for the boundaries for each of the ninety-nine house of representatives districts and the thirty-three senate districts. The commission shall draft the proposed plan in the manner prescribed in this article. Before adopting, but after introducing, a general assembly district plan, the commission shall conduct a minimum of three public hearings across the state to present the plan and shall seek public input regarding the proposed plan. All meetings of the commission shall be open to the public. Meetings shall be broadcast by electronic means of transmission using a medium readily accessible by the general public.

The commission shall adopt final plans not later than the first day of September of a year ending in the numeral one. After the commission adopts a plan, the commission shall file the plan with the secretary of state. Upon filing with the secretary of state, the plan shall become effective.

Not more than six weeks after the adoption of a general assembly plan, the co-chairpersons of the commission shall jointly dissolve the commission.

(D) The general assembly shall be responsible for making the appropriations it determines necessary in order for the commission to perform its duties under this article.

2. Each house of representatives district shall be entitled to a single representative in each general assembly. Each senate district shall be entitled to a single senator in each general assembly.

3. (A) The whole population of the state, as determined by the federal decennial census or, if such is unavailable, such other basis as the general assembly may direct, shall be divided by the number "ninety-nine" and by the number "thirty-three" and the quotients shall be the ratio of representation in the house of representatives and in the senate, respectively, for ten years next succeeding such redistricting.

(B) The population of each house of representatives district shall be substantially equal to the ratio of representation in the house of representatives, and the population of each senate district shall be substantially equal to the ratio of representation in the senate, as provided in division (A) of this section. In no event shall any district contain a population of less than ninety-five per cent nor more than one hundred five per cent of the applicable ratio of representation.

4. (A)(1) Any plan adopted by the commission shall comply with all applicable provisions of the constitutions of Ohio and the United States and of federal law, including, but not limited to, those provisions dealing specifically with the protection of minority voting rights.

(2) Every general assembly district shall be compact and composed of contiguous territory, and the boundary of each district shall be a single nonintersecting continuous line.

(B)(1) House of representatives districts shall be created and numbered in the following order of priority, to the extent that such order is consistent with the foregoing standards:

(a) Proceeding in succession from the largest to the smallest, each county containing population greater than one hundred five per cent of the ratio of representation in the house of representatives, as provided in Section 3 of this article, shall be divided into as many house of representatives districts as it has whole ratios of representation. Any fraction of the population in excess of a whole ratio shall be a part of only one adjoining house of representatives district.

(b) Each county containing population substantially equal to one ratio of representation in the house of representatives, as provided in Section 3 of this article, but in no event less than ninety-five per cent of the ratio nor more than one hundred five per cent of the ratio, shall be designated a representative district.

(c) Representative districts shall be drawn so as to split the smallest possible number of municipal corporations and townships whose contiguous portions contain a population of more than fifty per cent, but less than one hundred per cent, of one ratio of representation.

(d) The remaining territory of the state shall be divided into representative districts by combining the areas of whole municipal corporations and townships.

(e) Where the requirements of division (B)(1) of this section and Section 3 of this article cannot feasibly be attained by forming a representative district from whole municipal corporations and townships, not more than one municipal corporation or township may be split per representative district.

(2) If the commission must violate a standard listed in division (B)(1) of this section in order to draw a house of representatives district map, the commission shall violate the standard having the lowest possible priority, as listed in that division. If the commission violates a standard listed in that division, the

commission shall include in the district plan a statement explaining which standard was violated and the reason the standard was violated.

(C)(1) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(2) of this section, a county, municipal corporation, or township is considered to be split if any contiguous portion of its territory is not contained entirely within one district.

(2) Dividing, along a county line, a municipal corporation or township that has territory in more than one county shall not be considered splitting the municipal corporation or township.

5. The Ohio redistricting commission shall attempt to draw a general assembly district plan that meets both of the following standards:

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

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

6. Senate districts shall be composed of three contiguous house of representatives districts. A county having at least one whole senate ratio of representation shall have as many senate districts wholly within the boundaries of the county as it has whole senate ratios of representation. Any fraction of the population in excess of a whole ratio shall be a part of only one adjoining senate district. Counties having less than one senate ratio of representation, but at least one house of representatives ratio of representation shall be part of only one senate district.

The number of whole ratios of representation for a county shall be determined by dividing the population of the county by the ratio of representation in the senate determined under Section 3 of this article.

Senate districts shall be numbered from one through thirty-three and as provided in Section 8 of this article.

7. Notwithstanding the fact that boundaries of counties, municipal corporations, and townships within a district may be changed, district boundaries shall be created by using the boundaries of counties, municipal corporations, and townships as they exist at the time of the federal decennial census on which the redistricting is based, or, if unavailable, on such other basis as the general assembly has directed.

8. At any time the boundaries of senate districts are changed in any plan of redistricting made pursuant to any provision of this article, a senator whose term will not expire within two years of the time the plan of redistricting is made shall represent, for the remainder of the term for which the senator was elected, the senate district which contains the largest portion of the population of the district from which the senator was elected, and the district shall be given the number of the district from which the senator was elected. If more than one senator whose term will not so expire would represent the same district by following the provisions of this section, the district plan shall designate which senator shall represent the district and shall designate which district the other senator or senators shall represent for the balance of their term or terms.

9. (A)(1) If the Ohio redistricting commission fails to adopt a final general assembly district plan not later than the first day of September of a year ending in the numeral one, in accordance with Section 1 of this

article, the commission shall introduce a general assembly district plan by a simple majority vote of the commission.

(2) After introducing a general assembly district plan under division (A)(1) of this section, the commission shall hold a public hearing concerning the introduced plan, at which the public may offer testimony and at which the commission may adopt amendments to the introduced plan. All members of the commission shall be required to attend the hearing. A quorum of the members of the commission is required to conduct the hearing.

(3) After the hearing described in division (A)(2) of this section is held, and not later than the fifteenth day of September of a year ending in the numeral one, the commission shall adopt a final general assembly district plan, either by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B) of Section 1 of this article or by a simple majority vote of the commission.

(B) If the commission adopts a final general assembly district plan in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B) of Section 1 of this article, the plan shall take effect upon filing with the secretary of state and shall remain effective until the next year ending in the numeral one, except as provided in Section 10 of this article.

(C)(1) If the commission adopts a final general assembly district plan in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by a simple majority vote of the commission, the plan shall take effect upon filing with the secretary of state and shall remain effective until two general elections for the house of representatives have occurred under the plan or until a year ending in the numeral one, whichever is earlier.

(2) A final general assembly district plan adopted in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by a simple majority vote of the commission shall include a statement explaining what the commission determined to be the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio and the manner in which the statewide proportion of districts in the plan whose voters, based on recent election results, favor each political party corresponds closely to those preferences, as described in division (B) of Section 5 of this article. At the time the plan is adopted, a member of the commission who does not vote in favor of the plan may submit a declaration of the member's opinion concerning the statement included with the plan.

(D) After a plan adopted under division (C) of this section ceases to be effective, and not earlier than the first day of July of the year following the year in which the plan ceased to be effective, the commission shall be reconstituted as provided in Section 1 of this article, convene, and adopt a new general assembly district plan in accordance with this article, to be used until the next time for redistricting under this article. The commission shall draw the new plan using the same population and county, municipal corporation, and township boundary data as were used to draw the plan adopted under division (C) of this section.

10. (A) The supreme court of Ohio shall have exclusive, original jurisdiction in all cases arising under this article.

(B) In the event that any section of this constitution relating to redistricting or any plan of redistricting made by the Ohio redistricting commission is determined to be invalid by an unappealed final order of a court of competent jurisdiction then, notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution, the commission shall be reconstituted as provided in Section 1 of this article, convene, and ascertain and determine a plan of redistricting in conformity with such provisions of this constitution as are then valid, including establishing terms of office and election of members of the general assembly from districts designated in the plan, to be used until the next regular redistricting in conformity with such provisions of this constitution as are then valid.

(C) Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution or any law regarding the residence of senators and representatives, a plan of redistricting made pursuant to this section shall allow thirty days for persons to change residence in order to be eligible for election.

(D)(1) No court shall order, in any circumstance, the implementation or enforcement of any plan that has not been approved by the commission in the manner prescribed by this article.

(2) If the supreme court of Ohio determines that a general assembly district plan adopted by the commission does not comply with the standards set forth in this article, the available remedies shall be as follows:

(a) If the court finds that the district plan violates the requirements of Section 2, 3, 6, 7, or 8 or division (A)(2), (B), or (C) of Section 4 of this article, the court shall order the commission to correct the violation.

(b) If, in considering a district plan adopted under division (C) of Section 9 of this article, the court determines that both of the following are true, the court shall order the commission to adopt a new general assembly district plan in accordance with this article:

(i) The plan significantly violates the requirements of Section 2, 3, 6, 7, or 8 or division (A)(2), (B)(1)(a), (B)(1)(b), (B)(1)(c), (B)(1)(e), (B)(2), or (C) of Section 4 of this article in a manner that materially affects the ability of the plan to contain districts whose voters favor political parties in an overall proportion that corresponds closely to the statewide political party preferences of the voters of Ohio, as described in division (B) of Section 5 of this article.

(ii) The statewide proportion of districts in the plan whose voters, based on recent statewide state and federal election results, favor each political party does not correspond closely to the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio.

11. The various provisions of this article are intended to be severable, and the invalidity of one or more of such provisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL

If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this proposal, new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article XI take effect January 1, 2021, and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio are repealed from that effective date.



# JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article XI and to repeal Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to revise the redistricting process for General Assembly districts.

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio, three-fifths of the members elected to each house concurring herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors of the state, in the manner prescribed by law at the general election to be held on November 3, 2015, a proposal to enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to read as follows:

## ARTICLE XI

Section 1. (A) The Ohio redistricting commission shall be responsible for the redistricting of this state for the general assembly. The commission shall consist of the following seven members:

- (1) The governor;
- (2) The auditor of state;
- (3) The secretary of state;
- (4) One person appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;
- (5) One person appointed by the legislative leader of the largest political party in the house of representatives of which the speaker of the house of representatives is not a member;
- (6) One person appointed by the president of the senate; and
- (7) One person appointed by the legislative leader of the largest political party in the senate of which the president of the senate is not a member.

The legislative leaders in the senate and the house of representatives of each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly, acting jointly by political party, shall appoint a member of the commission to serve as a co-chairperson of the commission.

(B)(1) Unless otherwise specified in this article, a simple majority of the commission members shall be required for any action by the commission.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (B)(2)(b) of this section,

a majority vote of the members of the commission, including at least one member of the commission who is a member of each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly, shall be required to do any of the following:

(i) Adopt rules of the commission;

(ii) Hire staff for the commission;

(iii) Expend funds.

(b) If the commission is unable to agree, by the vote required under division (B)(2)(a) of this section, on the manner in which funds should be expended, each co-chairperson of the commission shall have the authority to expend one-half of the funds that have been appropriated to the commission.

(3) The affirmative vote of four members of the commission, including at least two members of the commission who represent each of the two largest political parties represented in the general assembly shall be required to adopt any general assembly district plan. For the purpose of this division, a member of the commission shall be considered to represent a political party if the member was appointed to the commission by a member of that political party or if, in the case of the governor, the auditor of state, or the secretary of state, the member is a member of that political party.

(C) At the first meeting of the commission, which the governor shall convene only in a year ending in the numeral one, except as provided in Sections 8 and 9 of this article, the commission shall set a schedule for the adoption of procedural rules for the operation of the commission.

The commission shall release to the public a proposed general assembly district plan for the boundaries for each of the ninety-nine house of representatives districts and the thirty-three senate districts. The commission shall draft the proposed plan in the manner prescribed in this article. Before adopting, but after introducing, a proposed plan, the commission shall conduct a minimum of three public hearings across the state to present the proposed plan and shall seek public input regarding the proposed plan. All meetings of the commission shall be open to the public. Meetings shall be broadcast by electronic means of transmission using a medium readily accessible by the general public.

The commission shall adopt a final general assembly district plan not later than the first day of September of a year ending in the numeral one. After the commission adopts a final plan, the commission shall promptly file the plan with the secretary of state. Upon filing with the secretary of state, the plan shall become effective.

Four weeks after the adoption of a general assembly district plan, the commission shall be automatically dissolved.

(D) The general assembly shall be responsible for making the appropriations it determines necessary in order for the commission to perform its duties under this article.

Section 2. Each house of representatives district shall be entitled to a single representative in each general assembly. Each senate district shall be entitled to a single senator in each general assembly.

Section 3. (A) The whole population of the state, as determined by the federal decennial census or, if such is unavailable, such other basis as the general assembly may direct, shall be divided by the number "ninety-nine" and by the number "thirty-three" and the quotients shall be the ratio of representation in the house of representatives and in the senate, respectively, for ten years next succeeding such redistricting.

(B) A general assembly district plan shall comply with all of the requirements of division (B) of this section.

(1) The population of each house of representatives district shall be substantially equal to the ratio of representation in the house of representatives, and the population of each senate district shall be substantially equal to the ratio of representation in the senate, as provided in division (A) of this section. In no event shall any district contain a population of less than ninety-five per cent nor more than one hundred five per cent of the applicable ratio of representation.

(2) Any general assembly district plan adopted by the commission shall comply with all applicable provisions of the constitutions of Ohio and the United States and of federal law.

(3) Every general assembly district shall be composed of contiguous territory, and the boundary of each district shall be a single nonintersecting continuous line.

(C) House of representatives districts shall be created and numbered in the following order of priority, to the extent that such order is consistent with the foregoing standards:

(1) Proceeding in succession from the largest to the smallest, each county containing population greater than one hundred five per cent of the ratio of representation in the house of representatives shall be divided into as many house of representatives districts as it has whole ratios of representation. Any fraction of the population in excess of a whole ratio shall be a part of only one adjoining house of representatives district.

(2) Each county containing population of not less than ninety-five per cent of the ratio of representation in the house of representatives nor more than one hundred five per cent of the ratio shall be designated a representative district.

(3) The remaining territory of the state shall be divided into representative districts by combining the areas of counties, municipal corporations, and townships. Where feasible, no county shall be split more than once.

(D)(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in divisions (D)(1)(b) and (c) of this section, a county, municipal corporation, or township is considered to be split if any contiguous portion of its territory is not contained entirely within one district.

(b) If a municipal corporation or township has territory in more than one county, the contiguous portion of that municipal corporation or township that lies in each county shall be considered to be a separate municipal corporation or township for the purposes of this section.

(c) If a municipal corporation or township that is located in a county that contains a municipal corporation or township that has a population of more than one ratio of representation is split for the purpose of complying with division (E)(1)(a) or (b) of this section, each portion of that municipal corporation or township shall be considered to be a separate municipal corporation or township for the purposes of this section.

(2) Representative districts shall be drawn so as to split the smallest possible number of municipal corporations and townships whose contiguous portions contain a population of more than fifty per cent, but less than one hundred per cent, of one ratio of representation.

(3) Where the requirements of divisions (B), (C), and (D) of this section cannot feasibly be attained by forming a representative district from whole municipal corporations and townships, not more than one municipal corporation or township may be split per representative district.

(E)(1) If it is not possible for the commission to comply with all of the requirements of divisions (B), (C), and (D) of this section in drawing a particular representative district, the commission shall take the first action listed below that makes it possible for the commission to draw that district:

(a) Notwithstanding division (D)(3) of this section, the commission shall create the district by splitting two municipal corporations or townships whose contiguous portions do not contain a population of more than fifty per cent, but less than one hundred per cent, of one ratio of representation.

(b) Notwithstanding division (D)(2) of this section, the commission shall create the district by splitting a municipal corporation or township whose contiguous portions contain a population of more than fifty per cent, but less than one hundred per cent, of one ratio of representation.

(c) Notwithstanding division (C)(2) of this section, the commission shall create the district by splitting, once, a single county that contains a

population of not less than ninety-five per cent of the ratio of representation, but not more than one hundred five per cent of the ratio of representation.

(d) Notwithstanding division (C)(1) of this section, the commission shall create the district by including in two districts portions of the territory that remains after a county that contains a population of more than one hundred five per cent of the ratio of representation has been divided into as many house of representatives districts as it has whole ratios of representation.

(2) If the commission takes an action under division (E)(1) of this section, the commission shall include in the general assembly district plan a statement explaining which action the commission took under that division and the reason the commission took that action.

(3) If the commission complies with divisions (E)(1) and (2) of this section in drawing a district, the commission shall not be considered to have violated division (C)(1), (C)(2), (D)(2), or (D)(3) of this section, as applicable, in drawing that district, for the purpose of an analysis under division (D) of Section 9 of this article.

Section 4. (A) Senate districts shall be composed of three contiguous house of representatives districts.

(B)(1) A county having at least one whole senate ratio of representation shall have as many senate districts wholly within the boundaries of the county as it has whole senate ratios of representation. Any fraction of the population in excess of a whole ratio shall be a part of only one adjoining senate district.

(2) Counties having less than one senate ratio of representation, but at least one house of representatives ratio of representation, shall be part of only one senate district.

(3) If it is not possible for the commission to draw representative districts that comply with all of the requirements of this article and that make it possible for the commission to comply with all of the requirements of divisions (B)(1) and (2) of this section, the commission shall draw senate districts so as to commit the fewest possible violations of those divisions. If the commission complies with this division in drawing senate districts, the commission shall not be considered to have violated division (B)(1) or (2) of this section, as applicable, in drawing those districts, for the purpose of an analysis under division (D) of Section 9 of this article.

(C) The number of whole ratios of representation for a county shall be determined by dividing the population of the county by the ratio of representation in the senate determined under division (A) of Section 3 of this article.

(D) Senate districts shall be numbered from one through thirty-three and as provided in Section 5 of this article.

Section 5. At any time the boundaries of senate districts are changed in any general assembly district plan made pursuant to any provision of this article, a senator whose term will not expire within two years of the time the plan becomes effective shall represent, for the remainder of the term for which the senator was elected, the senate district that contains the largest portion of the population of the district from which the senator was elected, and the district shall be given the number of the district from which the senator was elected. If more than one senator whose term will not so expire would represent the same district by following the provisions of this section, the plan shall designate which senator shall represent the district and shall designate which district the other senator or senators shall represent for the balance of their term or terms.

Section 6. The Ohio redistricting commission shall attempt to draw a general assembly district plan that meets all of the following standards:

(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.

(C) General assembly districts shall be compact.

Nothing in this section permits the commission to violate the district standards described in Section 2, 3, 4, 5, or 7 of this article.

Section 7. Notwithstanding the fact that boundaries of counties, municipal corporations, and townships within a district may be changed, district boundaries shall be created by using the boundaries of counties, municipal corporations, and townships as they exist at the time of the federal decennial census on which the redistricting is based, or, if unavailable, on such other basis as the general assembly has directed.

Section 8. (A)(1) If the Ohio redistricting commission fails to adopt a final general assembly district plan not later than the first day of September of a year ending in the numeral one, in accordance with Section 1 of this article, the commission shall introduce a proposed general assembly district plan by a simple majority vote of the commission.

(2) After introducing a proposed general assembly district plan under division (A)(1) of this section, the commission shall hold a public hearing concerning the proposed plan, at which the public may offer testimony and at which the commission may adopt amendments to the proposed plan.

Members of the commission should attend the hearing; however, only a quorum of the members of the commission is required to conduct the hearing.

(3) After the hearing described in division (A)(2) of this section is held, and not later than the fifteenth day of September of a year ending in the numeral one, the commission shall adopt a final general assembly district plan, either by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B)(3) of Section 1 of this article or by a simple majority vote of the commission.

(B) If the commission adopts a final general assembly district plan in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B)(3) of Section 1 of this article, the plan shall take effect upon filing with the secretary of state and shall remain effective until the next year ending in the numeral one, except as provided in Section 9 of this article.

(C)(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in division (C)(1)(b) of this section, if the commission adopts a final general assembly district plan in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by a simple majority vote of the commission, and not by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B)(3) of Section 1 of this article, the plan shall take effect upon filing with the secretary of state and shall remain effective until two general elections for the house of representatives have occurred under the plan.

(b) If the commission adopts a final general assembly district plan in accordance with division (A)(3) of this section by a simple majority vote of the commission, and not by the vote required to adopt a plan under division (B) of Section 1 of this article, and that plan is adopted to replace a plan that ceased to be effective under division (C)(1)(a) of this section before a year ending in the numeral one, the plan adopted under this division shall take effect upon filing with the secretary of state and shall remain effective until a year ending in the numeral one, except as provided in Section 9 of this article.

(2) A final general assembly district plan adopted under division (C)(1)(a) or (b) of this section shall include a statement explaining what the commission determined to be the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio and the manner in which the statewide proportion of districts in the plan whose voters, based on statewide state and federal partisan general election results during the last ten years, favor each political party corresponds closely to those preferences, as described in division (B) of Section 6 of this article. At the time the plan is adopted, a member of the commission who does not vote in favor of the plan may submit a declaration of the member's opinion concerning the statement included with the plan.

(D) After a general assembly district plan adopted under division (C)(1)(a) of this section ceases to be effective, and not earlier than the first day of July of the year following the year in which the plan ceased to be effective, the commission shall be reconstituted as provided in Section 1 of this article, convene, and adopt a new general assembly district plan in accordance with this article, to be used until the next time for redistricting under this article. The commission shall draw the new general assembly district plan using the same population and county, municipal corporation, and township boundary data as were used to draw the previous plan adopted under division (C) of this section.

Section 9. (A) The supreme court of Ohio shall have exclusive, original jurisdiction in all cases arising under this article.

(B) In the event that any section of this constitution relating to redistricting, any general assembly district plan made by the Ohio redistricting commission, or any district is determined to be invalid by an unappealed final order of a court of competent jurisdiction then, notwithstanding any other provisions of this constitution, the commission shall be reconstituted as provided in Section 1 of this article, convene, and ascertain and determine a general assembly district plan in conformity with such provisions of this constitution as are then valid, including establishing terms of office and election of members of the general assembly from districts designated in the plan, to be used until the next time for redistricting under this article in conformity with such provisions of this constitution as are then valid.

(C) Notwithstanding any provision of this constitution or any law regarding the residence of senators and representatives, a general assembly district plan made pursuant to this section shall allow thirty days for persons to change residence in order to be eligible for election.

(D)(1) No court shall order, in any circumstance, the implementation or enforcement of any general assembly district plan that has not been approved by the commission in the manner prescribed by this article.

(2) No court shall order the commission to adopt a particular general assembly district plan or to draw a particular district.

(3) If the supreme court of Ohio determines that a general assembly district plan adopted by the commission does not comply with the requirements of Section 2, 3, 4, 5, or 7 of this article, the available remedies shall be as follows:

(a) If the court finds that the plan contains one or more isolated violations of those requirements, the court shall order the commission to amend the plan to correct the violation.



(b) If the court finds that it is necessary to amend not fewer than six house of representatives districts to correct violations of those requirements, to amend not fewer than two senate districts to correct violations of those requirements, or both, the court shall declare the plan invalid and shall order the commission to adopt a new general assembly district plan in accordance with this article.

(c) If, in considering a plan adopted under division (C) of Section 8 of this article, the court determines that both of the following are true, the court shall order the commission to adopt a new general assembly district plan in accordance with this article:

(i) The plan significantly violates those requirements in a manner that materially affects the ability of the plan to contain districts whose voters favor political parties in an overall proportion that corresponds closely to the statewide political party preferences of the voters of Ohio, as described in division (B) of Section 6 of this article.

(ii) The statewide proportion of districts in the plan whose voters, based on statewide state and federal partisan general election results during the last ten years, favor each political party does not correspond closely to the statewide preferences of the voters of Ohio.

Section 10. The various provisions of this article are intended to be severable, and the invalidity of one or more of such provisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining provisions.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL

If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this proposal, new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article XI take effect January 1, 2021, and Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio are repealed from that effective date.

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*Speaker* \_\_\_\_\_ *of the House of Representatives.*

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*President* \_\_\_\_\_ *of the Senate.*

Adopted \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_

TRANSCRIPTION OF AUDIO FILE  
OHIO HOUSE SESSION  
DECEMBER 4, 2014

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DIGITAL EVIDENCE GROUP  
1730 M Street, NW, Suite 812  
Washington, D.C. 20036  
(202) 232-0646

1 (Recording begins)

2 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Bills for third  
3 consideration.

4 THE CLERK: House Joint Resolution Number 12,  
5 Senator Huffman proposing to amend Sections 1, 2, 6, 7,  
6 12 and 13 to amend for the purpose of adopting a new  
7 section number as indicated and to enact a new Section  
8 13, and to repeal Section 14 of Article 11 of the  
9 Constitution of the state of Ohio to revise the  
10 redistricting process for General assembly districts.

11 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is shall  
12 the title be agreed to? The Chair recognizes  
13 Representative Huffman.

14 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Thank you,  
15 Mr. Speaker. At this time, I move to add  
16 Representative Sykes as a joint sponsor on Substitute  
17 House Joint Resolution 12.

18 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Without objection, the  
19 motion will be agreed to. Hearing no objection, the  
20 motion is agreed to.

21 The question is shall the title be agreed to?

22 The gentleman from Allen --

23 THE CLERK: Huffman moves to amend the  
24 title --

25 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Yes.

1 THE CLERK: I mean, you get to state that,  
2 sir.

3 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Yes. Right. Right.  
4 The gentleman from Allen County,  
5 Representative Huffman, for the purpose of making a  
6 motion.

7 THE CLERK: Actually he's already made his  
8 motion.

9 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: He did?

10 THE CLERK: Yeah. We'll just --

11 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: I missed it.

12 THE CLERK: The resolution, we take the title  
13 amendment --

14 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: It's getting late.

15 THE CLERK: Yes, sir. So just Representative  
16 Huffman moves to amend the title. If you wish to add  
17 your name --

18 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Representative Huffman  
19 moves to amend the title. If you wish to add your name  
20 to the title, please do so at this time.

21 Without objection, the title will be agreed  
22 to. Hearing no objection, the title is agreed to.

23 The question is shall the joint resolution be  
24 adopted?

25 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Mr. Speaker, I rise

1 in support of House Joint Resolution Number 12.

2 We do many tasks in this chamber and some of  
3 those are very important to day to day government.  
4 Some of them are less important. This actually is  
5 somewhat of a historical day. The last time the state  
6 of Ohio changed its Constitution as it related to  
7 redistricting was 1967. And that was when we adopted  
8 the one-man, one-vote rule. And so this is an  
9 important issue.

10 It's also a complex issue, made more  
11 complicated I think by the fact that previous attempts  
12 to deal with redistricting combined the issues of  
13 Congressional redistrict or for our Congressmen to go  
14 to -- and Congresswomen who go to Washington with this  
15 issue. In other words, they were always in the same  
16 resolution.

17 As with any complex problem, the first thing  
18 you should do is try to reduce it to as few simple  
19 questions that -- or issues that can be addressed. And  
20 so the first thing we did is say, we introduced House  
21 Joint Resolution 11 and House Joint Resolution 12.  
22 Well, this obviously isn't 11. It's 12.

23 And we began addressing this issue in earnest  
24 really in about the last four weeks. There's been a  
25 team really since the summer have been examining and

1 reviewing the variety of concepts that are in House  
2 Joint Resolution 12. But it's also with any complex  
3 problem, where each side can -- is going to be greatly  
4 affected. There really -- we can talk in platitudes  
5 and we can talk about the things that are helpful. But  
6 until you actually sit down face to face and really go  
7 through some grinding detail which is what happened  
8 here with these negotiations, it's tough to get a  
9 resolution if you don't do that.

10 And that's really what has happened here and  
11 I want to compliment the negotiators. I'll talk about  
12 who those were in just a few minutes.

13 What this does, in general terms, it provides  
14 clear -- first, clear criteria for line drawing.  
15 Really, since 1967, there has been a patchwork of  
16 different criteria and elements that needed to be  
17 looked at by the folks who would be drying -- drawing  
18 the General Assembly lines over the past 50 years. And  
19 it was a little bit of a dukes(?)\* mixture, really, in  
20 terms of what was considered from year to year. The --  
21 so this provides clear criteria, the elements of each  
22 of those are in the line -- and talks about how lines  
23 can be drawn and keeping of course, political entities  
24 together.

25 There's also much more transparency that is

1     dictated again. Again, this has been in the  
2     Constitution about how the board will meet, when they  
3     have to have public meetings, publishing the map before  
4     it goes into place for public comment. All of those  
5     kinds of things.

6             There's specific language in there about how  
7     the map can't favor or disfavor one political party.  
8     Now enshrined in the Constitution, there are a variety  
9     of disincentives to what we all lovingly refer to as  
10    gerrymandering. So it's a basically the concepts that  
11    I think the public has demanded and most of us have  
12    said is important when we're drawing these maps.  
13    Basically, for basic issue of fairness.

14            Now, one of the things of course is which I  
15    think we want is our elected officials, those directly  
16    responsible to the electorate; this is one of the  
17    decisions that's going to have to get made every ten  
18    years. And those people are going to be responsible,  
19    the folks on the apportionment board, that now seven  
20    member panel which will change from five.

21            Our Constitution, both US and Ohio  
22    Constitution, enshrines the concept of majority rule  
23    and minority rights. That's through all facets of our  
24    society.

25            The problem that has happened in the past,



1 really 40 years, depending -- doesn't make any  
2 difference which party and both parties have had the  
3 pen in their hand is when the majority had the pen,  
4 there were abuses. Because basically folks said, hey,  
5 if we're drawing the lines, we're going to draw them  
6 the best we can.

7 Now what this process does is provide a  
8 series of disincentives to the majority to do that.  
9 The first, of course, is that in order to have a ten-  
10 year map, to get a map that will be in place for the  
11 next decade, there will have to be two -- at least two  
12 minority party votes in favor of that map on the seven  
13 member commission. The commission of course will be,  
14 assuming only Republicans or Democrats are elected to  
15 statewide offices, the commission will either be five  
16 to two or four to three, depending on, you know, who is  
17 elected.

18 So at least two minority members will have to  
19 approve of the map to get a ten-year map. And part of  
20 the -- I guess the intrigue or skullduggery that often  
21 -- that goes on with this map drawing is well, who's  
22 the executive director going to be? And who are the  
23 people who are going to buy the software? And where's  
24 this map going to be drawn? And often the majority can  
25 just make that decision too without referring to that.

1           We actually require the minority to sign off  
2 on those administrative decisions as we go along. And  
3 so that's, again, an additional minority right that's  
4 part of this.

5           Now, one of the problems, of course, is what  
6 happens if they can't decide? And I thought, and I  
7 think others thought that we have to have some way to  
8 bring this to a resolution. Now, we want to make sure  
9 that we draw a map that the minority can approve of  
10 because that's a 10-year map. That's the least chaotic  
11 part of this thing. But if they can't, the map that  
12 the majority approves is only good for the next two  
13 election cycles.

14           Now that is a disincentive because of course  
15 the majority would like to have a 10-year map and we  
16 know that the next four year cycle we may have a  
17 different set of statewide officers. So the majority  
18 is looking at that and saying, you know, it would be  
19 better to have a 10-year map because we may be worse  
20 off four years later.

21           Now, the -- even with that said, with that  
22 impasse provision, and those other minority rights  
23 contained in the resolution, is a series of  
24 instructions, and again, these are instructions from  
25 the Constitution to the apportionment board about what

1 must be considered when going through. And those,  
2 again, are detailed in there. We want to make sure  
3 that we don't split up counties. We want to make sure  
4 that we don't split up cities, townships. And all of  
5 those splitting requirements are contained in Sections  
6 -- Section 4, specifically subsections (b) and (c).

7 One of the other things that -- one of those,  
8 by the way, is we still allow House districts to be  
9 within 5 percent of the average in a district. It's  
10 about 115,000 now. And so, if -- we could draw a  
11 district that has 112,000 people or 118,000 people.  
12 There are -- there is currently in the Constitution,  
13 which will go away with this, a provision that if  
14 you're within 10 percent of the average, then you can  
15 still keep a county whole. And that's kind of  
16 harkening back to our days when the county's government  
17 was most important.

18 Now, there's actually only one district --  
19 we're going to eliminate the 10 percent requirement.  
20 And right now there's only one county that's within  
21 that 10 percent requirement and that's Allen County,  
22 Mr. Speaker.

23 So the last of the 10 percent single county  
24 districts would be going away with this. And sadly,  
25 Allen County will be divided or added to. We'll see

1 what happens when that comes around. So a little bit  
2 of disincentive for this bill for anybody who's from  
3 Allen County voting on it.

4 But the -- Section 9, by the way, has what  
5 happens if there's no minority vote. There has to be a  
6 hearing. The plan has to come out. It has to be  
7 subject to public review of the four years.

8 And then we, in Section 10, the Supreme Court  
9 is given instructions from the Constitution again, that  
10 they of course will have original jurisdiction and  
11 exclusive jurisdiction in these matters. The Court can  
12 consider the violations of the various line drawing.  
13 And we'll have a -- depending on whether those  
14 violations are material, as the Court would understand  
15 it, either order that specific violations be fixed, or  
16 if it's material enough to the mapmaking process, we'll  
17 order the apportionment board to draw a completely new  
18 map.

19 So there is a, you know, one of the things  
20 and I probably, ad nauseum, for some of you members,  
21 that I talk about also, is that the -- one of the  
22 important jobs a legislature can do is draw or draft  
23 legislation that is clear. And so when folks go  
24 forward, there's going to be less litigation, less  
25 incentive to argue. So we're, through this

1 Constitutional mandate to the Supreme Court and the  
2 future elected leaders, giving them clear instructions  
3 about what we should and shouldn't do.

4 This bill was reported out of the Policy  
5 Committee unanimously today, 11 to 0. There has been  
6 extraordinary amount of work done on our side by our  
7 legal counsel, Mike Lenzo, and also by Senator Jeff  
8 Jacobson, who took this on at our request. And I've  
9 received a lot of comments that roughly went, you know,  
10 this went really great when you stepped out and  
11 Jacobson came in, so I'm not that -- there you go,  
12 Jeff.

13 And I really want to thank -- I'll let  
14 Representative Sykes talk about some of the folks on  
15 his team. But Representative Sykes really did the  
16 heavy lifting on this and was in the middle of a lot of  
17 the negotiations. And so I want to really thank  
18 Representative Sykes for taking this task on and moving  
19 it forward.

20 Again, I would request the members favorably  
21 consider House Joint Resolution 12.

22 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is that the  
23 joint resolution be adopted?

24 The gentleman from Summit County,  
25 Representative Sykes.

1           REPRESENTATIVE SYKES: Thank you,  
2 Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen of the House. I am  
3 very glad to be standing here to present to you the  
4 product of a lot of hard work. I want to say, also I  
5 appreciate working with Representative Huffman, and  
6 also he so graciously offered to add my name to the  
7 resolution. I certainly appreciate that.

8           You know, just historically, both of us were  
9 wrestlers in high school. In fact, we wrestled at 145.  
10 And I try to be cool, calm and collected most of the  
11 time. But I can tell you there's been a few incidents  
12 where I would just like to wring his neck.

13           But we persevered. Now, I am very satisfied  
14 with the work product that we have before us today.  
15 But this bill, this resolution is not any panacea.  
16 It's not all the things that I wanted, but it is a  
17 significant improvement of what we have today. In  
18 fact, a reporter, a few minutes ago, asked me, they  
19 could tell from the smile on my face that I was  
20 satisfied with what we had produced. And they asked  
21 me, well what did we have to give up to get the  
22 majority to go along with this?

23           And I said, well, we didn't have to give up  
24 anything. That wasn't the approach that we had. We  
25 decided that we would sit down at the table and we

1 would put our good ideas on the table; both sides put  
2 good ideas on the table. And we negotiated and put  
3 together the best bundle of the good ideas that we  
4 could come up with to try to make some improvements for  
5 the process for the citizens of this state. So we  
6 didn't give up anything. We just made an advancement  
7 and an improvement in the whole entire process.

8 And because of that, we find that we have a  
9 system that will be extremely more competitive. One  
10 that will keep our communities together. A process  
11 that's more transparent and one that provides  
12 protection for minority interests.

13 There were a lot of compromises and some  
14 difficulty but we have now, for the first time, some  
15 enforceable criteria that courts and judges can use to  
16 evaluate plans to make sure that they meet and that  
17 they are, in fact, fair in determining who will  
18 represent the people of the state of Ohio.

19 I want to thank our staff, particular, Sarah  
20 Cherry, our legal counsel. Andy Depalma for helping us  
21 in this process. I'd like to thank also Dr. Dick  
22 Gunther from Ohio State University who participated in  
23 much of the discussions. The League of Women Voters,  
24 you know, they approached me back in the '80s when I  
25 first came into this process. In fact, a gentleman by

1 the name of David Horn drove up from Athens County,  
2 drove up to Akron, Ohio to talk to me in my living room  
3 about this process and convinced me this is something  
4 we need to do. And ever since then, I've been working  
5 on it. He's not around now but I just want to say  
6 wherever he is, to let him know that we finally were  
7 able to make some accomplishments, some improvements in  
8 this process.

9 Again, I want to thank Representative Huffman  
10 for having the insight and initiative to start us down  
11 this path. For all of the interested parties and  
12 groups that contributed to this, gave us good ideas,  
13 lawyers who would tell us what we should do, to try to  
14 help us prepare for court cases.

15 Mr. Speaker, ladies and gentlemen, I ask you  
16 to support this resolution.

17 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
18 the joint resolution be adopted?

19 The gentleman from Pickaway County, Ross  
20 County. One of those counties. Gentleman is  
21 recognized. Representative Hood.

22 REPRESENTATIVE HOOD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker,  
23 ladies and gentlemen of the House.

24 I rise in opposition to this plan. There are  
25 some good things in the plan as far as trying to make



1 it more reasonable, not to cut into communities.

2 Those are some good ideas.

3 The concern I have with this plan is we are  
4 taking a -- we call this -- we often call this the  
5 People's House. I don't think it's because the people  
6 pick us. I think it's because we pick our people.

7 And what we're doing now is creating a new  
8 redistricting system now where we're -- you know, we  
9 don't want to pick our people every ten years. Now we  
10 want to pick our people every four years. And I -- the  
11 result of this legislation could very well be a  
12 nightmare for our local boards of elections, as we now  
13 switch to a system where we're going to have  
14 redistricting every two years because we can't get  
15 minority agreement.

16 And today, it looks like yeah, we'll probably  
17 get that agreement when we look ahead, but as things go  
18 down the road and we start getting -- put our political  
19 hats on and we try to jockey to see where we're -- you  
20 know, where we're going to be at that time, very likely  
21 we won't have a minority agreement and we now have a  
22 redistricting process that goes on every four years,  
23 four years. And then two years. And now this will get  
24 even more political.

25 The other unintended consequences, and I do

1 believe it's an unintended consequence of this, is  
2 under a four-year and then four-year and then two-year  
3 redistricting system, the abuse by the majority to the  
4 minority becomes even greater. Now you're in a  
5 situation where the lady from Portage County, we're --  
6 you know, we're tired of hearing those speeches on fair  
7 elections, so we're going to draw you into this  
8 district. And then, how about the gentleman from  
9 Ottawa County? We're just, you know, you really  
10 irritate us and therefore, we're going to put you in  
11 this district over here. Or how about the gentleman  
12 from Franklin County? You're launching a statewide  
13 campaign from the floor of the House of  
14 Representatives. We don't like that. I think we'll  
15 move you over here.

16 And the abuse for this politically, every  
17 four years, and then two years at the end, and we all  
18 know how to predict the next elections. We all know  
19 that if John McCain would have won in 2008, the  
20 Democrats would be in control of the House today. We  
21 know that.

22 And that's okay. That's -- there's nothing  
23 wrong with that. That's elections. That's why we have  
24 elections.

25 But that's not good enough for us. We want

1 to be able to predict and decide and instead of our  
2 people pick us, we pick our people.

3 Now we already have -- you know, we already  
4 have a tyranny of the majority. You know, we don't --  
5 you know, we don't -- we actually have appointments now  
6 instead of elections when there's a vacancy in seats.  
7 We have caucus mafias that make sure no one can run for  
8 office against our, you know, our people. I mean,  
9 there are already things in place. And now, we're  
10 going to create a four-year redistricting system.

11 Now, I, in no way, say that the sponsors of  
12 this bill that that's what their hope and their  
13 objective is. That's -- I -- in fact, I don't believe  
14 that's the case at all. I know both gentlemen. I  
15 believe they're both honorable and that's not what  
16 they're trying to do here.

17 But they're not going to be here when we  
18 clean up the mess. I'm not going to be here -- well,  
19 you never know, who knows, when you clean up the mess.  
20 Okay.

21 But the -- this type of plan, the political  
22 abuse that we're going to see in the future over this,  
23 I think is just going to be phenomenal. I think it's  
24 going to be phenomenal. This plan makes the majority  
25 more powerful and really does more to silence the

1 minority. And I just think this is bad government. I  
2 think it's going to -- I think it's going to bear that  
3 out. And I certainly urge the defeat of this proposal.

4 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,  
5 shall the resolution be agreed to?

6 The gentleman from Franklin County.

7 REPRESENTATIVE DUFFEY: Thank you,  
8 Mr. Speaker.

9 Those are honest comments, I think.  
10 Heartfelt comments. Blunt comments.

11 However, the system that we have right now,  
12 what I like about the constitutional system in Ohio and  
13 at the federal level is the system of checks and  
14 balances. And right now, we've got a redistricting  
15 system that does not require any balance. It does not  
16 require minority party participation. And I really  
17 think that that has been destructive to the legislature  
18 in my experience.

19 I've worked on redistricting reform. I've  
20 been unsuccessful with it. I see today a genuine  
21 opportunity with our colleagues across the aisle to get  
22 something done. They're willing to do it and they been  
23 unwilling to do it before in the past and this is the  
24 moment for us to do this.

25 I honestly think it may carry some of the

1 risks that you describe. But I think what we've  
2 already seen is so terrible that we should move ahead  
3 with this. This can only be better. Checks and  
4 balances will improve the system.

5 And lest we forget, we don't always control  
6 the statewide offices. This is a purple state.  
7 Sometimes we lose as Republicans.

8 I think when the shoes are -- if the shoe was  
9 on the other foot, and the Democrats were to control  
10 two of the three statewide offices, we'd be looking at  
11 60-39 majority the other way. And I don't think anyone  
12 really wants to see government operate that way. They  
13 want to see some kind of balance and I think that this  
14 is going to provide that and so I strongly support the  
15 plan.

16 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,  
17 shall the -- wait a minute, I'm on the wrong -- shall  
18 the resolution be agreed to? Yeah.

19 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Mr. Speaker?

20 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The gentleman from  
21 Franklin County, Representative Carney.

22 REPRESENTATIVE CARNEY: Thank you,  
23 Mr. Speaker. I rise in support of the joint  
24 resolution.

25 Certainly, as somebody who launched a

1 statewide campaign from the state house floor, I might  
2 need to rethink that next time around. But I do want  
3 to say, obviously democracy is built upon compromise  
4 and working together. And while I see this as an  
5 imperfect plan, it's certainly better than what we  
6 have.

7 And the idea of having more members of this  
8 body who are encouraged to compromise and work together  
9 and actually get things done, that's clearly in the  
10 best interest of the people of the state. There's all  
11 sorts of bad things coming out of redistricting  
12 currently. I'm not saying there won't be bad things  
13 coming out of this plan as well. But it certainly seems  
14 that it's better than what we have and that's what  
15 compromise and democracy is about is doing better. Not  
16 necessarily getting to perfect but doing better.

17 This is better. I'd encourage my colleagues  
18 to support it and I plan to vote yes. Thank you very  
19 much.

20 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
21 the joint resolution be agreed to?

22 The lady from Portage County, Representative  
23 Clyde.

24 REPRESENTATIVE CLYDE: Thank you,  
25 Mr. Speaker. I rise today in support of House Joint

1 Resolution 12.

2 HJR 12 sets up a new process for the drawing  
3 of state legislative districts only. It would create a  
4 seven member board to draw the districts, the governor,  
5 the Secretary of State, the auditor and an appointee by  
6 all four legislative chambers. The committee would  
7 have to consider criteria minimizing the amount of  
8 counties and political subdivisions that can be broken  
9 up which would limit the partisan gerrymandering that  
10 has plagued our state for decades.

11 In order to pass a plan, two votes would be  
12 required from the minority party and if there's an  
13 impasse, a simple majority would be required to pass  
14 the map that would sunset in four years. The fairness  
15 criteria would still be required.

16 Additionally, there's aspirational criteria  
17 that no plan shall be drawn primarily for partisan  
18 advantage. And the map drawers must strive to achieve  
19 representational fairness, i.e., the proportion of  
20 seats won by a party should reflect the proportion of  
21 votes received by that party.

22 This is by no means a perfect plan and we  
23 made many concessions, including, I believe the  
24 following. First, we'd like the independent commission  
25 and issue too. We are settling here today for

1 politicians to continue drawing the maps. Two, we  
2 liked fairness criteria rather than just geographic  
3 criteria for the map drawing. Three, we wanted  
4 Congress in the plan but the GOP wants to wait. Four,  
5 we wanted a much fairer impasse resolution. But if  
6 this is truly the best we can do, some of us are  
7 willing to support it here today because Ohio simply  
8 cannot continue under the status quo.

9 Our state continues to suffer under one of  
10 the most egregious partisan gerrymandering systems in  
11 the country and it must end. This plan is certainly  
12 not perfect. But it's better than what we have today.  
13 And I urge my colleagues to pass House Joint Resolution  
14 12. Thank you.

15 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
16 the joint resolution be adopted?

17 REPRESENTATIVE BECK: Mr. Speaker?

18 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The gentleman from  
19 Clermont County.

20 REPRESENTATIVE BECK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker.  
21 You know, fortunately we don't have to pass a  
22 resolution to find out what's in it. As I was thumbing  
23 through it and looking at some of the provisions, one  
24 of which Representative Huffman had mentioned and then  
25 also Representative Clyde had mentioned, I -- a little



1 bit concerned about. And I'm looking to the Article  
2 11, I'm on Page 6, and it's Sections -- Section 5,  
3 subsection (a) and (b). It's on Line 162 through 167.

4 On section (b), it guarantees and this could  
5 be good or bad depending on your perspective, it  
6 guarantees we will forever have a very close 50-50  
7 split in this chamber so you're no longer ever going to  
8 see a strong partisan divide. So some people like that  
9 and some people won't. I just want everybody to be  
10 aware, you'll never see this kind of division again.

11 And on section (a), is actually the part I'm  
12 more concerned about where it talks about, you know, no  
13 plan shall favor or disfavor any political party. One  
14 of my concerns all along with this -- this change in  
15 the reapportionment is I don't want to see this wind up  
16 in the courts. I don't want to see the Supreme Court  
17 or some voter set of judges redrawing districts for us.  
18 And this section (a) sounds like it's heading for the  
19 Supreme Court.

20 Anybody who says, hey this isn't fair or this  
21 favors or disfavors, the Supreme Court will make that  
22 decision. And then, they're going to send it back to  
23 us or are they going to redraw it themselves? I don't  
24 know. But you know, judicial involvement always scares  
25 me, and I -- I frankly no longer like this resolution.

1 Thank you.

2 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,  
3 shall the joint resolution be adopted?

4 The lady from Hamilton County, Representative  
5 Reece.

6 REPRESENTATIVE REECE: Thank you,  
7 Mr. Speaker. I rise today to also support this joint  
8 resolution. I think our colleagues have indicated in  
9 these chambers today the calls and the cries that we've  
10 heard from citizens around the state for us to work  
11 together in a bipartisan way. In that process, there  
12 is give and take. I would say that one of the best  
13 lines, I know for my constituents, is 162 where it does  
14 say, no district plan shall be drawn primarily to favor  
15 or disfavor a political party.

16 I would say though today there are some  
17 things that are missing. I think redistricting and  
18 voting rights go hand in hand. And while I had an  
19 amendment drafted, I know that we would have been ruled  
20 out of order, I think it's important to mention the  
21 need for a voter Bill of Rights to be put into the  
22 Constitution.

23 And so, I've had so many citizens, over  
24 100,000, to be exact, in 90 days, 100,000 citizens  
25 signed a petition for a voter Bill of Rights so that

1 they can have an opportunity to vote on their voting  
2 rights and have it in the Constitution. And so, if I  
3 would say anything would be missing, that would be  
4 missing in as redistricting and voting rights go hand  
5 in hand, and I think certainly we've fallen a little  
6 bit short in not having that opportunity today to put  
7 that on the ballot and before the voters.

8 I would like to commend everyone that worked  
9 on it and particularly Representative Vernon Sykes who  
10 worked tirelessly on our side, to get us to this point  
11 because there were a lot of things that we'd like to  
12 have seen in this that is not in it. But he worked  
13 really hard on this. He's been on this for a long time  
14 and has always said we've got to get this redistricting  
15 together and it's been a lot of hours, a lot of days,  
16 and burning a lot of shoe leather back and forth  
17 between the two sides to get this done.

18 So again, this is something that the citizens  
19 have been asking for in a bipartisan way and I plan to  
20 support this as we work to have a better plan for how  
21 we draw the lines. Thank you.

22 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
23 the joint resolution be adopted?

24 The House will prepare and proceed to vote.

25 (Vote taken)

1 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Have all members now  
2 voted? The Clerk will take the roll.

3 THE CLERK: 80 affirmative votes, 4 negative  
4 votes.

5 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: 80 affirmative votes, 4  
6 negative votes. The joint resolution is therefore  
7 adopted.

8 Does the lady from Franklin County have a  
9 motion?

10 UNIDENTIFIED: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I move that  
11 we adjourn for a brief caucus, please?

12 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Indeed. We will recess  
13 for a --

14 UNIDENTIFIED: Recess, sorry.

15 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: For a brief caucus.

16 UNIDENTIFIED: Thank you, sir.

17 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Without objection, the  
18 motion is agreed to. What? The gentleman  
19 Representative Huffman?

20 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Are we recessing  
21 also, 313, sir?

22 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Yes.

23 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Caucus and 313.

24 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Let's do that.

25 (Recording ends)

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## C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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I, Alicia Jarrett, court-approved

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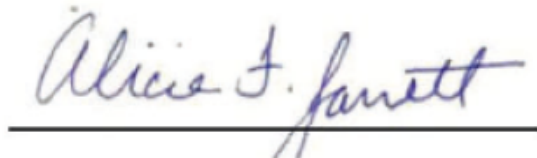
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alicia J. Jarrett", is written over a horizontal line.

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ALICIA JARRETT, AAERT NO. 428

DATE: October 15, 2021

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TRANSCRIPTION OF AUDIO FILE  
OHIO SENATE SESSION  
DECEMBER 12, 2014

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1 (Recording begins)

2 THE CLERK: Senator Faber submitted the  
3 following report, standing committee and rules for  
4 which the substitute House Joint Resolution Number 12,  
5 Representative Huffman and Sykes and others having the  
6 same consideration reports back a substitute  
7 resolution, recommends passage.

8 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: The question is  
9 shall the report be agreed to without objection? The  
10 report is agreed to.

11 Resolutions reported by committee.

12 THE CLERK: Substitute House Joint Resolution  
13 Number 12, Representative Huffman, Sykes and others,  
14 proposing to enact new sections and repeal sections of  
15 the State of Ohio -- Constitution of the State of Ohio  
16 to revise the redistricting process for the General  
17 Assembly districts.

18 THE CHAIR: The question is shall the  
19 resolution be adopted? The Chair recognizes Senator  
20 LaRose.

21 SENATOR LAROSE: Thank you, Mr. President.  
22 So we've arrived at the end of a long road here  
23 together, tonight, colleagues. And what we've done is  
24 the result of a collaborative and constructive process.  
25 This is what happens when good men and women of good

1 intentions can come together and solve a very vexing  
2 problem.

3 I think, for a long time, we've all known the  
4 need for redistricting reform. In fact, this chamber  
5 has led on this issue for a long time now. Our  
6 colleagues in the House did good work and sent us a  
7 resolution that we were able to make some improvements  
8 on by working together.

9 What we've come up with here is what Senator  
10 Sawyer and I said, from the beginning, was our goal and  
11 that was to come up with something that's not good for  
12 Republicans, something that's not good for Democrats,  
13 but something that is good for Ohio, and I'm confident  
14 that we've done that. We've come up with a process for  
15 redrawing legislative lines that is going to yield more  
16 fair and balanced districts and it's going to be  
17 something that we can all be proud of for a long time  
18 to come. It took a lot of late night work and some  
19 elbow grease, and by working together, we were able to  
20 get it done.

21 What we've created is a seven member Ohio  
22 Redistricting Commission made up of the Governor,  
23 Auditor, Secretary of State, and two leaders from each  
24 of the chambers. These individuals will have the task  
25 of drawing maps with bipartisan compromise. If they



1 are unable to, there's a swift and sure impasse  
2 resolution that will yield maps that will last for four  
3 years and then six years. Those maps will be drawn  
4 under certain constraints, so to make sure that those  
5 lines are drawn as fairly as possible.

6 Through this process, we are referring to the  
7 people of Ohio a balanced plan and one of which we can  
8 all be proud. I want to recognize the work that's been  
9 done by our staff, too many to mention, the team from  
10 LSC who's worked tirelessly on this. Each and every  
11 one of you who has been patient through this process.  
12 Our leaders: President Faber, Leader Schiavoni, who  
13 have been steadfast in this goal. We're not going to  
14 kick it down the road. We're going to get it done and  
15 we've stayed until almost twilight but we're getting it  
16 done.

17 I want to recognize the leadership that  
18 Representative Sykes has shown throughout his career  
19 and in this final hours of his legislative career to  
20 bring this to us as well as Representative Huffman who  
21 has worked hard on this issue and brought it to us.

22 I sincerely urge all of you to support  
23 Substitute House Joint Resolution 12 tonight. Thanks.

24 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: The question is  
25 shall the resolution be adopted? The chair recognizes

1 Senator Sawyer.

2 SENATOR SAWYER: Thank you, President Faber.

3 I am pleased to follow Senator LaRose. It was in  
4 December of 2012 that we stood on this floor and  
5 brought a resolution that passed this chamber. I think  
6 it was SJR 5, 32 to 1. It was a bipartisan,  
7 straightforward, uncomplicated approach to a difficult  
8 issue that was important to keep as simple and direct  
9 as we possibly could.

10 For those of you who were here that day, it  
11 was the day that I asked Senator LaRose, much to his  
12 surprise, to stand up and explain that in the span of a  
13 single elevator ride. He did, stood up on the floor,  
14 explained it as quickly as you can possibly imagine,  
15 and he did it so well that everybody on this chamber  
16 stood up and gave him a standing ovation. I don't  
17 think I've ever seen that before.

18 That sort of work is not easy. But it is  
19 fundamental. It is so fundamental that it is the  
20 leading element in our Constitution. Article 1,  
21 Section 2 of our Constitution was so important that the  
22 Continental Congress led off by -- with the requirement  
23 that representatives shall be apportioned according to  
24 their respective numbers. The actual enumeration of  
25 which shall be made within every term of 10 years in

1 such manner as the Congress shall by law direct. It is  
2 fundamental to the representative government that has  
3 guided our nation for over 200 years now. The --  
4 Section 4 of Article 1 sets the times and place and  
5 manner of holding elections. That's how fundamental it  
6 was to the founders and it is fundamental to us and  
7 that's why we worked so hard on it and that's why it  
8 has been difficult.

9 I don't intend to speak long but just let me  
10 close with the words of a political science scholar  
11 that has been integral in this process, Professional  
12 Richard Gunther who is now retired, but who has worked  
13 hard throughout this process and has helped us to build  
14 on the work of Representative Sykes and Representative  
15 Huffman, that has brought us here today through the  
16 leadership of President Faber and Leader Schiavoni, and  
17 has helped to build on the work that Senator LaRose and  
18 I began some time ago. If I can share those words in  
19 closing, I'd appreciate it.

20 It would be an understatement to say that  
21 there is widespread dissatisfaction with our current  
22 redistricting process. The failure of several efforts  
23 to reform this badly flawed system over the past four  
24 decades however is a reflection of just how difficult  
25 it is to reach bipartisan agreement over how to replace

1 it with something that better serves the interests of  
2 the voters of Ohio.

3 This proposal, approved by an overwhelming  
4 bipartisan majority in the House of Representatives, is  
5 a dramatic departure from this pattern of paralysis and  
6 polarization. I might say that it mirrors the work  
7 that we have previously done in the Senate.

8 This proposal that reflects the work that has  
9 been added to by the work of this Senate presents us  
10 with an opportunity to break through this gridlock and  
11 reform this badly broken system. I urge all of my  
12 colleagues to support this resolution this morning.  
13 Thank you, Mr. President.

14 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: Thank you, Senator  
15 Sawyer.

16 The question is shall the resolution be  
17 adopted? The Chair recognizes Senator Schiavoni.

18 SENATOR SCHIAVONI: Thank you, Mr. President.

19 Days of negotiation with legislators from  
20 both parties and good government experts have yielded a  
21 result that is fair and bipartisan. It's an agreement  
22 that we hope will lead to more competitive elections,  
23 to better reflect the political diversity in the state  
24 of Ohio. We were able to build upon the work that was  
25 done in the Senate in SJR 5 which led to SJR 1 and

1 became the foundation for this piece of legislation.

2 I was honored to work side by side with  
3 members of all four caucuses for a better system of  
4 drawing political maps and now we have just that for  
5 our voters to consider. I wanted to thank Vernon  
6 Sykes, Matt Huffman, President Faber, Senator Sawyer,  
7 Senator LaRose, Senator Turner, for all the work that  
8 you've done on this issue.

9 Also wanted to thank staff, Pavan Parikh,  
10 Bethany Sanders, and Sarah Cherry and Andy Depalma all  
11 worked incredibly hard on this issue.

12 This should -- tonight should give voters  
13 renewed hope that public officials actually do work  
14 hard and they work together. And in this case, we came  
15 back with a very quality -- high quality piece of  
16 legislation so I would urge support of this. Thank  
17 you, Mr. President.

18 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: The question is,  
19 shall the resolution be agreed to?

20 Chair recognizes Senator LaRose for a motion  
21 to amend.

22 SENATOR LAROSE: Mr. President, I move to  
23 amend and the amendment has been laid in front of the  
24 members -- is being laid in front of the members. I'll  
25 describe the amendment because it consists of very few

1 words. In Line 273, the goal is to delete the first  
2 underlined comma. This is twilight legislating, ladies  
3 and gentlemen.

4 THE CHAIR: Members, just for clarification,  
5 the amendment we took in rules, which many of you  
6 participated in, we added a semicolon, as you know, but  
7 we did not delete the comma. So to be grammatically  
8 correct, which we rely on the Clerk and his staff and  
9 LSC, as you've seen have been busily studying this over  
10 the last several few minutes, that's the extent of the  
11 amendment that's been offered by Senator LaRose.

12 Is there any objections to the amendment?

13 (No audible response)

14 THE CHAIR: Seeing none, the amendment  
15 becomes part of the resolution.

16 THE CHAIR: The question is, shall the  
17 resolution be adopted? The Chair recognizes President  
18 Faber.

19 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: Thank you, Mr.  
20 President. I'm going to be real brief. This is good.  
21 Vote for it.

22 This is the product of bipartisanship.  
23 Something you may not know, over 92 percent of the  
24 matters that you have voted on, on this floor, this  
25 year, have been bipartisan. This is a fine way for us

1 to end this legislative session with this bipartisan  
2 approach.

3 Thank you for making it work. Thank you to  
4 Leader Schiavoni. Thank you to Senator LaRose, Senator  
5 Sawyer, Representative Sykes, Representative Huffman,  
6 all the staff. Some of these people I've driven kind  
7 of hard. Raider Rossi, our legal counsel. Is he here?  
8 There he is -- Frank -- where is Francis Strigari?  
9 There you are.

10 Jeff Jacobson, the House legal counsel.  
11 Lenzo, the House Democrats legal counsel, the Senate  
12 Democrats legal counsel and all of the staff who have  
13 made this process work but most importantly LSC who  
14 have been doing the drafting over and over and over  
15 again. So I don't think we can be too hard on them  
16 about missing a comma.

17 With that, I urge a yes vote. Thank you,  
18 Mr. President. Thank you to the members. What a fine  
19 way to end our session.

20 THE CHAIR: The question is shall the  
21 resolution be adopted?

22 Clerk will call the roll.

23 THE CLERK: Bacon?

24 SENATOR BACON: Yes.

25 THE CLERK: Balderson?

1           SENATOR BALDERSON:   Yes.  
2           THE CLERK:   Beagle?  
3           SENATOR BEAGLE:   Yes.  
4           THE CLERK:   Brown?  
5           SENATOR BROWN:   Yes.  
6           THE CLERK:   Burke?  
7           SENATOR BURKE:   Yes.  
8           THE CLERK:   Cafaro?  
9           SENATOR CAFARO:   Yes.  
10          THE CLERK:   Coley?  
11          SENATOR COLEY:   Yes.  
12          THE CLERK:   Eklund?  
13          SENATOR EKLUND:   Yes.  
14          THE CLERK:   Gardner?  
15          SENATOR GARDNER: Yes.  
16          THE CLERK:   Gentile?  
17          SENATOR GENTILE: Yes.  
18          THE CLERK:   Hite?  
19          SENATOR HITE:   Yes.  
20          THE CLERK:   Hughes?  
21          SENATOR HUGHES:   Yes.  
22          THE CLERK:   Jones?  
23          SENATOR JONES:   Yes.  
24          THE CLERK:   Jordan?  
25          SENATOR JORDAN:   Aye.



1 THE CLERK: Kearney?  
2 SENATOR KEARNEY: Yes.  
3 THE CLERK: LaRose?  
4 SENATOR LAROSE: Yes.  
5 THE CLERK: Lehner?  
6 SENATOR LEHNER: Yes.  
7 THE CLERK: Manning?  
8 SENATOR MANNING: Yes.  
9 THE CLERK: Obhof?  
10 SENATOR OBHOF: Yes.  
11 THE CLERK: Patton?  
12 SENATOR PATTON: Yes.  
13 THE CLERK: Peterson?  
14 SENATOR PETERSON: Yes.  
15 THE CLERK: Sawyer?  
16 SENATOR SAWYER: Yes.  
17 THE CLERK: Schaffer?  
18 SENATOR SCHAFFER: Yes.  
19 THE CLERK: Schiavoni?  
20 SENATOR SCHIAVONI: Yes.  
21 THE CLERK: Seitz?  
22 SENATOR SEITZ: No.  
23 THE CLERK: Skindell?  
24 SENATOR SKINDELL: Yes.  
25 THE CLERK: Turner?

1 SENATOR TURNER: Yes.

2 THE CLERK: Uecker?

3 SENATOR UECKER: Yes.

4 THE CLERK: Widener?

5 SENATOR WIDENER: Yes.

6 THE CLERK: Faber?

7 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: Aye.

8 THE CLERK: 28 Yays, one nay. The resolution  
9 is adopted and entitled.

10 THE CLERK: A resolution proposing to enact  
11 new sections and repeal sections of the Ohio  
12 Constitution to revise the redistricting process for  
13 General Assembly Districts.

14 THE CHAIR: The question is shall the title  
15 be agreed to? The Chair recognizes Senator LaRose.

16 SENATOR LAROSE: Mr. President, I move to  
17 amend the title and because of this collaborative  
18 effort, it gives me great pleasure to add the names  
19 Balderson, Beagle, Burke, cole, Ecklund, Gardner,  
20 Gentile, Hite, LaRose, Lehner, Peterson, Sawyer,  
21 Schiavoni, Turner, Bacon. Thank you, Mr. President.  
22 Widener.

23 THE CHAIR: Without objection, the title is  
24 agreed to.

25 Is that it?

1 THE CLERK: That's it.

2 SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: Before I recognize  
3 Senator Widener for a motion to adjourn, we are not  
4 adjourning sine die, because we are keeping the roll  
5 open to take messages from the House so the things that  
6 they're doing that do not require our action can come  
7 back before us.

8 It is not my intention to have any other  
9 voting session days. The remainder of this year until  
10 we actually adjourn sine die, but we have that option.  
11 If something goes wrong or blows up, we'll call you.  
12 But right now, it is my intention to wish you all a  
13 very merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and welcome  
14 most all of you back here to start the new session in  
15 January.

16 I think you have a lot to be proud of. This  
17 has been a very, very good year. Hard work. I can  
18 look at every single member in this chamber,  
19 Republican, Democrat and say that you've had an  
20 opportunity to work hard on a lot of things. We've  
21 done a lot of good work together.

22 Occasionally, we've been not together but  
23 Senator Skindell, you've voted with us a couple of  
24 times.

25 SENATOR SKINDELL: A couple. Multiple.

1           THE CHAIR: The reality is as I've said  
2 before, Ohio is stronger because of your service.  
3 Enjoy the time with your families. Spend time in your  
4 districts seeing your constituents. And just know that  
5 I think this has been a good year and you're all to  
6 credit.

7           With that, I'm going to recognize Senator  
8 Widener for a motion. But if you're driving home  
9 tonight, be careful. Be careful. It's late and I  
10 apologize for the lateness.

11           Chair recognizes Senator Widener for a  
12 motion.

13           SENATOR WIDENER: Mr. President, I move the  
14 Senate adjourned until Tuesday, December 16, 2014, at  
15 9:30 a.m. for the purpose of a non-voting session.

16           SENATE PRESIDENT FABER: Without objection.

17           (Recording ends)

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## C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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I, Alicia Jarrett, court-approved

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transcriber, hereby certify that the foregoing is a

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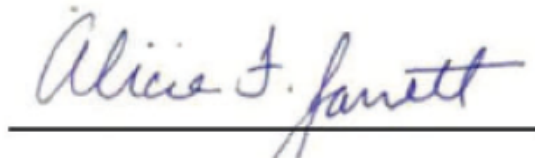
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alicia J. Jarrett", is written over a horizontal line.

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ALICIA JARRETT, AAERT NO. 428

DATE: October 15, 2021

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TRANSCRIPTION OF AUDIO FILE  
OHIO HOUSE SESSION  
DECEMBER 17, 2014

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1 (Recording begins)

2 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The Chair recognizes  
3 Representative Huffman of Allen County.

4 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Thank you,  
5 Mr. Speaker. I move that the House now revert to the  
6 second order of business, that being introduction of  
7 bills.

8 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Without objection, the  
9 motion will be agreed to. Hearing no objection, the  
10 motion is agreed to.

11 Introduction of Bills.

12 THE CLERK: We don't have any, sir.

13 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Oh. That's a shame.  
14 Consideration of Senate amendments.

15 THE CLERK: Amended Substitute House Joint  
16 Resolution Number 12. Representatives Huffman, Sykes  
17 and others, proposing to enact new sections and to  
18 repeal section of the Constitution of the State of Ohio  
19 to revise the redistricting process for General  
20 Assembly districts.

21 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
22 the amendments of the Senate be agreed to?

23 The Chair recognizes the representative from  
24 Allen County, Representative Huffman.

25 REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Thank you,

1 Mr. Speaker. Mr. Speaker, members of the House, I'm  
2 proud to stand and recommend for passage amended  
3 Substitute House Joint Resolution 12.

4 This is the resolution that passed out of  
5 this chamber recently by an 80 to 4 vote and I'm happy  
6 to recommend some very good changes that the Senate  
7 made. And I'm going to detail, I think, the major  
8 changes and talk about why I think those are important  
9 although I know we've got a lot of issues today so I'll  
10 try to be as succinct as possible.

11 I think the biggest change is we had a  
12 pattern where if there was no minority buy-in on the  
13 maps that would be drawn, there would be a 4-year map,  
14 another 4-year map, and then mathematically speaking a  
15 2-year map which could leave us with 4 maps in the  
16 space of 10 years which would be confusing to the  
17 public, if not to the members or those interested in  
18 running for the legislature.

19 The Senate's recommended change was because  
20 they, of course, run on different cycles -- the House  
21 runs on two years, they run in four years, and so the  
22 timing is much, much different for them to consider.

23 So in short, the map is or the impasse is now  
24 a 4-year, 6-year period. Again, it's if we don't have  
25 minority buy-in, there's going to be a substantial



1 penalty in the sense that -- in essence, we have mid-  
2 decennial redistricting and the majority will have to  
3 start over again. '

4           There's some administrative things done. The  
5 Senate, with some of their lawyers that they have that  
6 are members, had a variety of potential problems they  
7 brought up. What if the commission couldn't agree on  
8 who to hire or how to expend funds? We said, well if  
9 that happened, then each party would be allocated an  
10 equal amount of money and could hire the staff that  
11 they needed to.

12           We clarified the splitting of the political  
13 subdivisions. And it is a much -- I think, a much  
14 better description than when it left the House.  
15 Without getting into -- and if you, of course, go  
16 through the resolution, and you read it about four or  
17 five times, it all comes together.

18           But for example, we have cities that sit in  
19 three different counties and you either have to split  
20 the county or you have to split the city. And so we  
21 simply said that when you split those cities, in order  
22 to keep a county intact, that doesn't count as a  
23 violation in terms of the bill. It's those kinds of  
24 things that were clarified in the Senate version of  
25 this.

1           We also talked about the issue of what we  
2   would use in terms of representational fairness, the  
3   number of elections. The House passed version simply  
4   used the modifier, recent.

5           We made a specific statement that that would  
6   be in the last five election cycles or last ten years.  
7   And what that means is there's the assertion which I  
8   think is true that in presidential years, the voting  
9   electorate favors one party. In gubernatorial or non-  
10   presidential years, it favors the other party. Well,  
11   what that means is in each ten years, it'll be a  
12   different set, either three presidential or two  
13   gubernatorial or vice versa in the following ten years.

14          And so, again, the purpose of this is to  
15   clarify the rules. There have been a variety of rules  
16   in the Constitution that were unclear. This, of course  
17   the current plan was adopted in 1967. There have been  
18   some put in place by court decision and followed by,  
19   sometimes and sometimes not.

20          So now we have a clear order of things that  
21   are mandatory. We have other things that area  
22   aspirational in nature. And it's really the clarity in  
23   this, I think that will make sure that the majority  
24   must follow these rules or, of course, suffer a variety  
25   of penalties.

1 I do want to thank some folks particularly  
2 President Faber who at 1:30 in the morning was  
3 martialing the troops. I will tell you this is for  
4 future speakers and caucus leaders. About eight  
5 o'clock, this process looked like it was in serious  
6 trouble. About 9:15, the food showed up over at the  
7 Senate and everything got a lot better. So if you want  
8 people to work late into the evening, you probably  
9 should feed them. I think that helps a lot.

10 But President Faber did a remarkable job, I  
11 think, not only with his caucus but sitting down with  
12 us. Speaker, we used your office all night. But  
13 sitting down with myself and Representative Sykes and  
14 Leader Schiavoni. Leader Schiavoni should also be  
15 complimented because he contributed greatly also. But  
16 I want to thank, in particular, President Faber.

17 We have caucus legal counsel who at 3:15  
18 Friday morning, when the -- what we had agreed on came  
19 back from LSC, who were going through and checking each  
20 of the language, and Mike Lenzo, for the Republican did  
21 a wonderful job. He was up there saying all the should  
22 is now a shall or shall's now a should. All of those  
23 things were going and Sarah Cherry did a remarkable job  
24 for the House, and of course the folks over in the  
25 Senate were there too.

1 I was -- for myself, Mr. Speaker, about 3:15  
2 when we were kind of getting the final draft, I was  
3 sitting over in the leather couch in your office and I  
4 had to admit I took my shoes off in your office,  
5 Speaker. And I looked a little bedraggled and I'm not  
6 sure how everyone else looked. But then I looked over  
7 at the chair in front of your desk and Vernon Sykes was  
8 there, sitting there, and he looked perfect. I mean,  
9 his bow tie in place, the jacket as he always -- I  
10 mean, it's remarkable.

11 So this process also -- this has been about  
12 -- really about a four or five month journey but in  
13 particular, the last six weeks happened because Vernon  
14 Sykes sat down with our legal counsel, Mike Lenzo, and  
15 Jeff Jacobson who was our consultant on this and went  
16 through the grinding details of this. That's how this  
17 came together. So if we had not had Representative  
18 Sykes willing to do that, we wouldn't be able to  
19 present this resolution today. So he's, I think, a  
20 real champion in this.

21 So Mr. Speaker, I'd encourage everyone to  
22 support this resolution. I think it will be a new day  
23 in Ohio in terms of how apportionment happens. It'll  
24 be a clearer process. It'll be one that is, I think,  
25 fair to the general public and most importantly the

1 public will understand how these things happen. So I  
2 recommend passage. Thank you.

3 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
4 the resolution pass?

5 The gentleman from Summit County,  
6 Representative Sykes.

7 REPRESENTATIVE SYKES: Thank you, Mr. Speaker  
8 and ladies and gentlemen of the House.

9 I also rise to concur with Representative  
10 Huffman. I want to personally thank him as well for  
11 initiating this whole process. He approached me  
12 several weeks ago and said that he thought that he and  
13 I might be able to make a difference that had not been  
14 able to come about for some time. And so, I wanted to  
15 personally thank him for reaching out to us.

16 Also, I want to thank all of the other  
17 auxiliary folks that have contributed to this process,  
18 not just this year but over the years. The League of  
19 Women Voters and Common Cause, and even the labor  
20 organizations and other interested parties. The  
21 Chamber has been encouraging us to do something here.  
22 The Bar Association and others have been encouraging  
23 us, edging us on to do something. So with that, with  
24 the editorial boards across the state, we have finally  
25 come, I believe, to a good conclusion.

1           I also want to say that each one of the  
2 provisions of the Senate amendments was agreed to  
3 bicamerally, House and Senate leadership as well as  
4 party affiliation, Democrats and Republicans. We sat  
5 down and clear -- so for -- so Mr. Speaker, for one of  
6 the few items -- this is one of the few times that we  
7 can say that something has come back from the Senate  
8 that's in pretty good shape, okay? And that's because  
9 we sat there with them and helped them to decide on  
10 what to do with this particular provision.

11           In addition, it's laid over since early  
12 Friday morning and we've had legal scholars from around  
13 the state, interested parties and groups looking at it,  
14 going over it with a fine toothed comb. Our staffs  
15 have been involved with it and many of you fellow  
16 legislators have given some input and looked and  
17 reviewed and asked questions.

18           So I think it's had an opportunity to be  
19 vetted, at least over the weekend with the time  
20 schedule that we have. And with that, Mr. Speaker,  
21 ladies and gentlemen of the House, I think it's time  
22 for us to move Ohio forward with this redistricting  
23 plan.

24           SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Was I with you the next  
25 morning when you made that great speech to the

1 graduates at Akron U? Was that the next morning?

2 REPRESENTATIVE SYKES: Yes. I was the  
3 commencement speaker at the University of Akron.

4 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: You did a great job  
5 despite the fact that Huffman kept you up all night.

6 The lady from Portage County, Representative  
7 Clyde.

8 REPRESENTATIVE CLYDE: Thank you,  
9 Mr. Speaker. I also urge my colleagues to concur with  
10 Senate amendments to House Joint Resolution 12.

11 Since I took office in 2011, I've been  
12 advocating for redistricting reform and carefully  
13 studying our process. As a member of the bipartisan,  
14 bicameral Redistricting Reform Study Committee, a  
15 member of the Redistricting Subcommittee of the House,  
16 State Government and Elections Committee, sitting in  
17 when needed on the apportionment board for my  
18 colleague, Representative Armond Budish, and as a  
19 member of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization  
20 Commission since its inception.

21 While Ohio is generally a 50-50 Republican-  
22 Democrat state, our legislature is 60-40 towards one  
23 direction and even worse is our Congressional  
24 delegation which is 75-25 in favor of one party. I  
25 support this plan that was conceived of by

1 Representatives Sykes and Huffman and tweaked in the  
2 wee hours of the morning in the Ohio Senate, not  
3 because it is the perfect plan but because it moves the  
4 ball forward toward fair districts in our great state.

5 It allows for minority input which our  
6 current system does not. The geographic criteria laid  
7 out in the plan will result in less partisan  
8 gerrymandering by either side.

9 The Ohio Supreme Court also ruled that the  
10 criteria currently in the Ohio Constitution are not  
11 enforceable. And this plan should help fix that  
12 frustrating problem.

13 We, of course, are making many concessions  
14 when we agree to this plan. There is absolutely no  
15 reason other than entrenched opposition by the Ohio  
16 Congressional delegation and their supporters that we  
17 should not be including Congress in this redistricting  
18 reform plan. The fact that Arizona has a case in the  
19 Supreme Court has nothing to do with how we in Ohio  
20 draw our maps. It is my hope that we pass a fair  
21 Congressional redistricting plan as soon as possible in  
22 2015 so these two plans can go on the ballot together.

23 Another concession by our side is that the  
24 fairness criteria are not required but are  
25 aspirational. Fairness should be required of any plan



1 and I think Ohioans deserve to have a fair map, not  
2 just an attempt at a fair map. This plan doesn't  
3 ensure bipartisanship. It ensures minority input.  
4 Those are two different things. And the minority input  
5 is not required if there's an impasse, which I believe  
6 waws a significant concession.

7 We also should implement this plan right away  
8 rather than make Ohioans wait seven long years for fair  
9 districts and fair representation. I really do believe  
10 that we all come here for the right reasons, and  
11 contrary to what the public thinks, in some of the more  
12 difficult debates that take place here on this floor,  
13 most of what we do is bipartisan.

14 I think this plan should give Ohioans pride  
15 and hope for more coming together and more work getting  
16 done. And I urge my colleagues to concur here today.  
17 Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

18 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,  
19 shall the amendment -- I beg your pardon. Yeah. Shall  
20 the amendments be agreed to?

21 The gentleman from - thank you, sir, Clermont  
22 County. I wasn't even up all night. Clermont County  
23 for the purpose of addressing the House.

24 REPRESENTATIVE BECKER: Yes. Thank you,  
25 Mr. Speaker.

1           First off, I want to state that I do agree  
2 with the goals that we're trying to accomplish here and  
3 you know, I'm one of the few people over here I think  
4 that actually likes what the Senate does, at least what  
5 they've been doing lately to improve some of what we  
6 sent over to them. And this is a case in point. What  
7 we sent over to them had a lot of flaws in it and what  
8 they sent back to us was dramatically improved and I  
9 very much appreciate that.

10           The political pendulum swings back and forth,  
11 of course as we all know. Sometimes one party will be  
12 favored for maybe one or two election cycles over the  
13 other. And when that happens to occur during a Census  
14 year, and the apportionment board is then put together  
15 to redraw the lines, well, the last couple of election  
16 cycles is the Republicans have won and it's winner take  
17 all. Our electoral college is the same way. It's  
18 winner take all.

19           So frankly, if I were a Democrat, because the  
20 last 20, 30 years, the Democrats have been boxed out by  
21 the winds of the political pendulum, who you know, has  
22 worked in favor of the Republicans, I would vote for  
23 this. If I were a Democrat, I would vote for his. No  
24 question about it.

25           But there's a couple of things that can

1   happen when you're crafting a bill at 2, 3, 4 in the  
2   morning. You know, for example, if you look on Line  
3   272, you're going to see the word, should. The  
4   commission should do something. So we're going to  
5   write into our Constitution, what a commission should  
6   do. Whatever should means.

7                   And then you have the word closely in  
8   reference to, you know, political party preferences, or  
9   what favors this or that. Closely is used four times.  
10   What does closely mean and who is going to determine  
11   what closely means?

12                   You know, as we all know, there are some  
13   federal judges in this town. I could name names but I  
14   don't have to. You know who I'm talking about, who  
15   makes it their mission in life to pick apart or  
16   election laws and change our laws to what is in their  
17   preference, what they like, with they think is best.  
18   My concern with all this is that we're giving them some  
19   fodder to do that once again. And you know, claims of  
20   the Fourteenth Amendment or whatever they'd like to  
21   claim, that seems to be the catchall for everything  
22   they want to do. And they're going to be rewriting our  
23   Constitution for us and giving it back to us and saying  
24   well, you know, you guys are going to have to do this  
25   because that's the quote, unquote "order of the Court."

1           And so, all I'm asking for -- all I'm asking  
2   for, is that we vote no. Put this into the first  
3   quarter of next year, make a few minor edits, fix a few  
4   things in this bill and then put it on the ballot for  
5   November of 2015. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

6           SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,  
7   shall the amendments of the Senate be agreed to?

8           The gentleman from --

9           THE CLERK: Pickaway.

10          SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Pickaway County, that's  
11   where I saw you last at. Yeah, Pickaway County.

12          REPRESENTATIVE HOOD: Very true, Mr. Speaker.

13          Thank you, Mr. Speaker and ladies and  
14   gentlemen of the House. I rise to oppose HJR 12. It  
15   is definitely better than what it was when we -- when  
16   it left here. There's no question about it.

17          The -- my -- the crux of my opposition to the  
18   joint resolution is the -- what used to be a 4-4-2  
19   redistricting plan is now a 4-6 redistricting plan; a  
20   lot better than a 4-4-2. I mean, in a 4-4-2, you know,  
21   clearly every four years and then at the end of the  
22   decade, every two years. You know, our constituents  
23   are not the people in our districts and our  
24   constituents are the apportionment board.

25          I mean, let's face it, when's the only time a

1 Congressman ever listens to us? Oh, it's generally in  
2 the first year of the decade. Then that's when all of  
3 a sudden, they care about, you know, what we think,  
4 when the redistricting process comes along. The rest  
5 of the nine years, they're certainly not worried about  
6 states rights or things like that.

7 So when -- so my problem --my problem is this  
8 -- although it's better to have a 4-6 than a 4-4-2, a  
9 4-6 is still not a positive thing. We should still  
10 have a ten-year redistricting plan. Should it be fair?  
11 Yeah, it should be fair. But it should still be a ten-  
12 year plan.

13 The problem with the 4-6 or any plan that's  
14 not ten years is now both sides are going to read the  
15 tea leaves. It's been argued that, you know, doing  
16 redistricting more than once a decade is something that  
17 both sides would be -- would consider so heinous that  
18 we would just, you know, rush to make sure somehow we  
19 have -- we can do it and the minority will support it  
20 because we don't want to have to go through this more  
21 than once every ten years.

22 I would submit to you, there's a scenario  
23 where both sides very much would want it to happen more  
24 often than ten years. If I'm on -- if I'm sitting on  
25 the minority side, my argument would be, I read the tea

1 leaves. If it looks like we got a better shot of  
2 winning the apportionment board after the next --  
3 before the next redrawing time, then I'm much more  
4 willing to not provide that minority support. And now,  
5 even though the districts won't be that great today  
6 that we're drawing today, four years later, we could  
7 totally redraw them when we're in the majority. And  
8 so, from that standpoint, I can actually see the  
9 minority member -- members actually wanting to lose so  
10 they can win four years later.

11 Okay that's certainly and then of course we,  
12 no question, there may -- there's an incentive for the  
13 majority to not accept the opinions of the minority so  
14 that they can continue to stay in the majority. So  
15 that's -- I think -- so I think that's one of the  
16 serious problems we have here is that our constituents,  
17 our people back home that vote on us, are they what's  
18 now I guess a seven member apportionment board? And  
19 having this happen in the middle of the decade or  
20 towards the middle of the decade is certainly a concern  
21 of mine. I think it's certainly an undesirable  
22 situation. So let's fix that part of that. Let's fix  
23 that part of the joint resolution and move forward. I  
24 urge a no vote.

25 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall

1 the Senate amendments be agreed to? The lady from  
2 Hamilton County, Representative Reece.

3 REPRESENTATIVE REECE: Thank you,  
4 Mr. Speaker. I think that all of us have heard the  
5 cries of our constituents who have said that we need to  
6 do better and must do better as it relates to  
7 redistricting. They've asked for us to try to work on  
8 something that can be presented to them in a timely  
9 fashion. Certainly this is not a perfect document. I  
10 don't think either side -- you know, we all have  
11 differences of opinion so nothing's perfect but  
12 certainly better than what we have been operating under  
13 thus far according to the public.

14 I'm always supportive of allowing the public  
15 to be able to make their own decisions as it relates to  
16 these types of issues. I certainly would have hoped  
17 that we could have had even a voter Bill of Rights so  
18 that they can make their own decision about voting  
19 rights. I think they're intelligent enough to make  
20 those kinds of decisions.

21 I do want to thank everyone that has been  
22 involved in this very tough process. Those who have  
23 been involved, whether it's the League of Women Voters,  
24 whether it's constituents who have called for change,  
25 whether it's the inside attorneys on both sides, the

1 legislators on both sides. And particularly, I want to  
2 highlight and thank Representative Sykes who is not  
3 only a senior member of our caucus but someone who has  
4 made this a top priority for his time and his tenure  
5 here. He is also a member of the Ohio Legislative  
6 Black Caucus and has been keeping us abreast on this  
7 issue as well, and I want to thank him for the time  
8 that he has said, he's going to roll up his sleeves and  
9 we're going to get this done, and certainly acknowledge  
10 him especially in this process.

11           When those say we can you know, have another  
12 shot at it and do it later, well, people stayed up  
13 while I was in the bed asleep, folks were here working  
14 until 4 -- almost past 4 a.m. to get it done so I want  
15 to thank those in the House and in the Senate who  
16 stayed up until 4 in the morning, trying to get this  
17 done and get something done in a timely fashion.

18           I do want to highlight though something that  
19 is important as we look at the diversity and where our  
20 state is headed in terms of representation. I want to  
21 highlight that in our Ohio General Assembly we have 132  
22 members. And as we look at drawing the lines and we  
23 talk about drawing the lines and trying to make it  
24 mirror the population of our state, to make sure the  
25 diverse vote -- diverse voices are in the Ohio General



1 Assembly, I want to highlight that in this next General  
2 Assembly, we'll have 132 members. Out of 132 members  
3 only 15 of those members are African American, both in  
4 the House and the Senate, when we have a population of  
5 about 17.16 percent of Ohio's population is African  
6 American.

7           We only have two African American  
8 Congressional folks and one of those seats came about  
9 through a lawsuit in the Cleveland area and that's how  
10 we have one of the seats to represent diversity and the  
11 other, just recently, only 2 out of 16, when Ohio has a  
12 population again of 17.16 -- I have the population, I'm  
13 sorry, of 13.4 percent. So our population is 13.4  
14 percent, so really if we had everything in a fair  
15 system out of 132 seats, we should have at least 17  
16 represented by African Americans. So we are looking  
17 for a process that would increase the diversity to  
18 reflect our state so that when we come in here and we  
19 make decisions, we are able to represent all the  
20 constituents of the state of Ohio.

21           I think this is a major step in the right  
22 direction. I will support this and I thank those who  
23 took on this tough decision and allowed the voters to  
24 make the decision on what's the best redistricting  
25 plan. So I support this bill.

1                   SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is shall  
2 the Senate amendments be agreed to?

3                   The gentleman from Allen County,  
4 Representative Huffman.

5                   REPRESENTATIVE HUFFMAN: Thank you,  
6 Mr. Speaker. Just briefly, to address -- I think the  
7 significant portions of this really are the rules on  
8 drawing the lines. We can have a lot of conversation  
9 about what a particular word may mean or what some  
10 judge may say it means. But it's important to note,  
11 for example, here in Franklin County, that only -- of  
12 course the City of Columbus has to be split because  
13 its' bigger than 115,000, but there would only be one  
14 other split in the county. Or -- and so, if you have a  
15 district that includes part of New Albany and goes over  
16 into Gahanna, and twists around which is what  
17 everyone's objecting to, that's not going to happen  
18 anymore because the Constitution prohibits that. And  
19 those kinds -- those are the kinds of things -- so we  
20 have all of the rules.

21                   And people can see what's happened and the  
22 map drawers can say, we're not allowed to do that.  
23 We've only and certainly the majority may try to do  
24 that. The minority may say well we want it to be this  
25 way and that's when all of these other things come into

1 play. And because the rules are clear, it's easier for  
2 people to agree.

3 So we can talk about what closely may mean,  
4 and remember, all laws -- almost all laws, have words  
5 like due process, or equal protection, or what's  
6 reasonable. Those are things -- those are on our  
7 statutes and we deal with those in courts all the time  
8 because you know, life isn't necessarily always exactly  
9 down the line. But we got it pretty close with this.  
10 We got it, I think as close as we can.

11 So there is a ten-year plan, a ten-year map  
12 which I think is the most likely outcome from these  
13 enhanced and clearer rules. So again, I recommend  
14 passage.

15 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question is, shall  
16 the Senate amendments be agreed to?

17 The gentleman from Cuyahoga County,  
18 Representative Barnes.

19 REPRESENTATIVE BARNES: Thank you very much,  
20 Mr. Speaker. You and I have had many discussions, one  
21 of which has been about how we work better on a  
22 bipartisan basis. I was very happy today to attend the  
23 unveiling of the great Ohio exhibit for the former  
24 speaker of the United States House, Bill McCollum.

25 It was very interesting during that

1 presentation, to hear an over the phone message from  
2 Congressman Louis Stokes.

3           Congressman Stokes served for 15 consecutive  
4 terms in the United States Congress, note of  
5 distinction today in his message was the fact that over  
6 the 15 terms that he served in the United States  
7 Congress, that when he went into Congress, Bill  
8 McCollum met him at the door, held his hand and said,  
9 welcome, Lou.

10           For over the next 30 years, he was the only  
11 African American male to serve in the United States  
12 Congress from the great state of Ohio. But what's  
13 interesting, Mr. Speaker, is that in the General  
14 Assembly for which you have presided over, had it not  
15 been for the redistricting process under your  
16 leadership, today we have two African Americans that  
17 represent the state of Ohio in the United States  
18 Congress, one of which is from my 11th Congressional  
19 district of Ohio. The other is out of here in Franklin  
20 county where one of our former members, Joyce Beatty,  
21 now has the honor of serving and that was for you,  
22 under those rules, Mr. Speaker.

23           Ladies and gentlemen, you know there are  
24 consequences for wining and losing elections.  
25 Everybody in here knows that. I think that the bill

1 before us today, while it's not perfect, I think that  
2 it's important beginning for us to provide leadership  
3 for the citizens of Ohio to recognize there's a  
4 consistent process by which we go about the  
5 deliberation of establishing districts n our  
6 Congressional delegation. But again, this is the  
7 business of politics.

8 We don't like politics because sometimes  
9 politics may or may not put peoples first in the eyes  
10 of the people who are sitting in the room making the  
11 decisions. But the bottom line is that this is  
12 politics, on particular issues of this.

13 I think this is a very important first step  
14 of getting started. I'm proud of the fact that this  
15 has been done essentially from what I've heard from  
16 both sponsors, Mr. Huffman and Mr. Sykes. And I think  
17 that we've had a deliberative process that seems to me,  
18 based on what I'm hearing, is a process that has been a  
19 bipartisan basis but it still is reflective of the  
20 consequences of elections.

21 That's America, ladies and gentlemen.  
22 Whether we like it or not, that's what we need to deal  
23 with. I support this bill today, Mr. Speaker. I want  
24 to thank you for your leadership.

25 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: The question recurs,

1 shall the amendments of the Senate be agreed to?

2 The House will prepare and proceed to vote on  
3 the Senate amendments to HJR 12.

4 (Vote taken)

5 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: Have all members now  
6 voted?

7 The Clerk will take the roll.

8 THE CLERK: 81 affirmative votes, 7 negative  
9 votes.

10 SPEAKER BATCHELDER: 81 affirmative votes, 7  
11 negative votes. Having received the required  
12 Constitutional majority, the amendments of the Senate  
13 are therefore agreed to.

14 (Recording ends)

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## C E R T I F I C A T I O N

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I, Alicia Jarrett, court-approved

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transcriber, hereby certify that the foregoing is a

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correct transcript from the electronic sound recording

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provided for transcription and prepared to the best of

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my ability.

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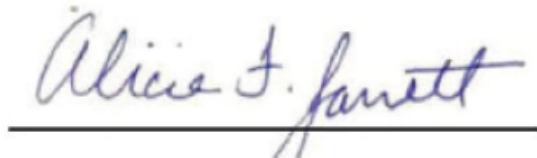
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A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Alicia J. Jarrett", is written over a horizontal line.

24

ALICIA JARRETT, AAERT NO. 428

DATE: October 15, 2021

25

BULLETIN

130<sup>th</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
of the  
STATE OF OHIO

JANUARY 7, 2013  
2013-2014

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Compiled under the direction of  
BRADLEY J. YOUNG  
Clerk of the House  
VINCENT L. KEERAN  
Clerk of the Senate

Showing action on all measures through  
December 30, 2014

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FINAL EDITION

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- H.J.R. NO. 12** — REPRESENTATIVES HUFFMAN - SYKES.  
 COSPONSORS: REPRESENTATIVES AMSTUTZ - ANIELSKI - ASHFORD -  
 BAKER - BROWN - BURKLEY - CLYDE - DUFFEY - GROSSMAN - HACKETT -  
 HAGAN, C. - HAYES - KUNZE - LETSON - MCCLAIN - MCGREGOR - PATMON -  
 SCHERER - SCHURING - STEBELTON - WACHTMANN - SPEAKER  
 BATCHELDER - SENATORS FABER - COLEY - BACON - BALDERSON -  
 BEAGLE - BURKE - EKLUND - GARDNER - GENTILE - HITE - LAROSE -  
 LEHNER - PETERSON - SAWYER - SCHIAVONI - TURNER - WIDENER.  
 Proposing to enact new Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 of Article XI and to repeal Sections 1,  
 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 of Article XI of the Constitution of the State of Ohio  
 to revise the redistricting process for General Assembly districts.  
 Introduced — p. 2770  
 To committee — Policy and Legislative Oversight — p. 2779  
 Reported. Substitute resolution — Policy and Legislative Oversight — p. 2902  
 Third Consideration — p. 2907  
 Adopted — p. 2913  
 Vote-yas 80, nays 4  
 Received from the House — p. 2463  
 To committee — Reference — p. 2463  
 To committee — Rules — p. 2468  
 Reported. Substitute bill — Rules — p. 2570  
 Offered — p. 2570  
 Amended — p. 2579  
 Adopted — p. 2579  
 Vote-yas 28, nays 1  
 Taken up — p. 3101  
 Concurred in Senate amendments — p. 3110  
 Vote-yas 82, nays 8  
 Motion to reconsider — Agreed to without objection — p. 3128  
 Senate amendments reconsidered — p. 3129  
 Vote-yas 81, nays 7  
 Adopted — p. 3137  
 Vote-yas 80, nays 8  
 Filed with the Secretary of State

## BILLS A

ADAMS, J. —  
 HOUSE  
 10  
 20  
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 47  
 H. C. R.  
 H. R. NO.  
 36  
 55  
 SENATE  
 S. J. R. NO.  
 S. C. R. NO.

ADAMS, R. —  
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 H. C. R. NO.  
 H. R. NO.  
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 S. J. R. NO.  
 S. C. R. NO.

AMSTUTZ —  
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 H. J. R. NO.  
 H. C. R. NO.  
 H. R. NO.  
 496  
 556  
 SENATE  
 243  
 S. J. R. NO.  
 S. C. R. NO.

**OFFICIAL GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT**

[illegible]

D	Summit County	E	2700 NEW FRANKLIN 4-B 01	F	November 3, 2015 General Election
<div><div>Issue 3 Grants a monopoly for the commercial production and sale of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes</div><div>Proposed Constitutional Amendment</div><div>Proposed by Initiative Petition</div><div>To add Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio.</div><div>A majority yes vote is necessary for the amendment to pass.</div></div>		<p>products. Create a new state government agency called the marijuana control commission (with limited authority) to regulate the industry, comprised of seven Ohio residents appointed by the Governor, including a physician, a law enforcement officer, an administrative law attorney, a patient advocate, a resident experienced in owning, developing, managing and operating businesses, a resident with experience in the legal marijuana industry, and a member of the public.</p> <p><b>SHALL THE AMENDMENT BE APPROVED?</b></p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>			
<p>The proposed amendment would:</p> <p>Endow exclusive rights for commercial marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction to self-designated landowners who own ten predetermined parcels of land in Butler, Clermont, Franklin, Hamilton, Licking, Lorain, Lucas, Delaware, Stark, and Summit Counties. One additional growth facility may be allowed for in four years only if existing facilities cannot meet consumer demand.</p> <p>Permit retail sale of recreational marijuana at approximately 1,100 locations statewide. Such retail establishments must have a state license that may be obtained only if the electors of the precinct where the store will be located approve the use of the location for such purpose at a local option election.</p> <p>Legalize the production of marijuana-infused products, including edible products, concentrates, sprays, ointments and tinctures by marijuana product manufacturing facilities.</p> <p>Allow each person, 21 years of age or older, to grow, cultivate, use, possess, and share up to eight ounces of usable homegrown marijuana plus four flowering marijuana plants if the person holds a valid state license. Allow each person, 21 years of age or older, to purchase, possess, transport, use, and share up to 1 ounce of marijuana for recreational use. Authorize the use of medical marijuana by any person, regardless of age, who has a certification for a debilitating medical condition.</p> <p>Prohibit marijuana establishments within 1,000 feet of a house of worship, public library, public or chartered elementary or secondary school, state-licensed day-care center, or public playground, however: after a certain date, a new day-care, library, etc., cannot force a preexisting marijuana establishment to relocate by opening a new location within 1,000 feet of the business.</p> <p>Prohibit any local or state law, including zoning laws, from being applied to prohibit the development or operation of marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction facilities, retail marijuana stores, and medical marijuana dispensaries unless the area is zoned exclusively residential as of January 1, 2015 or as of the date that an application for a license is first filed for a marijuana establishment.</p> <p>Create a special tax rate limited to 15% on gross revenue of each marijuana growth, cultivation, and extraction facility and marijuana product manufacturing facility and a special tax rate limited to 5% on gross revenue of each retail marijuana store. Revenues from the tax go to a municipal and township government fund, a strong county fund, and the marijuana control commission fund.</p> <p>Create a marijuana incubator in Cuyahoga County to promote growth and development of the marijuana industry and locate marijuana testing facilities near colleges and universities in Athens, Cuyahoga, Lorain, Mahoning, Scioto and Wood Counties, at a minimum.</p> <p>Limit the ability of the legislature and local governments from regulating the manufacture, sales, distribution and use of marijuana and marijuana</p>		<div><div>Issue 21 Proposed Charter Amendment Summit County</div><div>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</div></div> <p>Shall the Charter of the County of Summit be amended to create a Nonpartisan Independent Council Fair Districting Commission to apportion Council into legislative districts commencing with the Federal decennial census of 2020, to establish principles for said apportionment and to maintain current Council legislative districts within their current boundaries until the Federal decennial census of 2020?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>			
		<div><div>Issue 22 Proposed Charter Amendment (By Petition) Summit County</div><div>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</div></div> <p>Shall the Charter of the County of Summit be amended to create a Council Districting Commission to apportion Council into legislative districts commencing with the Federal decennial census of 2020, to establish principles for said apportionment, and to immediately enact new Council districts for the November 8, 2016 general election that were drawn by the committee representing the petitioners proposing this Charter Amendment?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> YES</p> <p><input type="radio"/> NO</p>			
		<div><div>Issue 47 Proposed Municipal Income Tax City of New Franklin</div><div>A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.</div></div> <p>Shall the Ordinance providing for a 1% levy increase on income from 1% to 2% for the purpose of <b>general municipal operations and capital improvements of the City</b> be passed?</p> <p><input type="radio"/> FOR THE INCOME TAX</p> <p><input type="radio"/> AGAINST THE INCOME TAX</p>		<div><div>Tina N. Brubaker Wayne W. Jones A. R. Ralston Bryan C. Williams</div><div>Board Members' Signatures Page 2 of 2</div></div>	
D	2700 NEW FRANKLIN 4-B 01	E	Poll Ballot	F	Typ:01 Seq:0270 Spl:01

## Vote **YES** on Issue 1

### **A FAIR, BIPARTISAN, and TRANSPARENT PROCESS**

**VOTE YES on Issue 1.** A **YES** vote will send a message that voters are tired of politics as usual and create a **fair, bipartisan, and transparent** redistricting process that will **make politicians accountable** to the voters.

Currently, it is far too easy for politicians to gerrymander their way into safe seats. Voting **YES on Issue 1**, will make sure state legislative districts are drawn to be **more competitive** and compact, and ensure that **no district plan should be drawn to favor or disfavor a political party.**

#### **Fair**

Voting YES on Issue 1 will establish fair and balanced standards for drawing state legislative districts, including that no district plan should favor a political party.

Voting YES on Issue 1 will help keep our communities together by requiring that a district plan split as few counties, municipalities, and townships as possible.

#### **Bipartisan**

Voting YES on Issue 1 will require bipartisan support of a seven-member commission to adopt new state legislative districts for 10 years.

#### **Transparent**

Voting YES on Issue 1 will create the bipartisan commission that is required to broadcast and conduct all of its meetings in public.

Voting YES on Issue 1 will require the bipartisan commission to share a plan for state legislative districts with the public and seek public input before adopting a new plan.

Make your vote count, **vote YES for ISSUE 1**



The Wayback Machine - <http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org:80/endorsem...>

## **Yes On Issue 1! Fair Districts = Fair Elections**

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## **Issue 1 Endorsements**

**Issue 1 is supported by the Ohio Democratic Party, the Ohio Republican Party, the Ohio Green Party and (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html>)over 100 local and state organizations (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html>).**

**We asked Ohioans why they support redistricting reform. Here are some of our favorite reasons.**

**"Balanced districts mean less radical politicians."**

Jamew Draper

**"Democracy is being stolen from us by gerrymandering voting districts. People are being disenfranchised and the will of the people is able to be ignored by the falsely elected officials."**

Cynthia Osika

**"This is the best hope for an election that represents the voters fairly."**

Carolyn Casper

**"I don't believe gerrymandering is fair to voters. It rigs the voting process."**

Keith Culley

**"Democracy works great when people choose who's going to represent them. It doesn't work when political parties choose who gets to vote for them."**

John Stevens

**Legislators should not be able to draw their own districts to keep themselves in office!**

Michael Schmitz



**"I registered to vote so I can help end gerrymandering and make sure my son grows up in a state where every voter has a voice." -Raquel Neaves**



**As an Army veteran, life-long Ohioan and committed voter, I am a strong supporter of Issue 1. I even registered some friends to vote because I want every voter in Ohio to have a voice." -Zachary Hust**

# Now tell us why YOU support redistricting reform!

## Ohio Redistricting Reform Endorsement

### Endorse Redistricting Reform

**Add Your Name**☒ Opt in to updates from The Ohio Voter Rights Coalition[Not in the US?](#)

Endorsing Organization Name

Check as many as apply \*

- ☐ I believe that fair districts mean fair elections
- ☐ I believe that a winners-take-all system hurts voters
- ☐ I am committed to greater transparency and bringing map-making out of the backroom
- ☐ I believe that legislators need to be accountable to their constituents

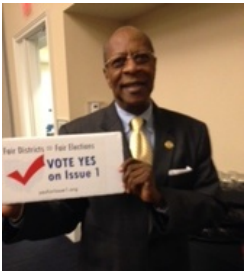
Are there any additional reasons that you are supporting redistricting form?



**Sponsored by:** The Ohio Voter Rights Coalition ([http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547mp\\_/https://actionnetwork.org/groups/the-ohio-voter-rights-coalition](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547mp_/https://actionnetwork.org/groups/the-ohio-voter-rights-coalition))



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H Lee Thompson



Leontien Kennedy



Erica Pilisy



Jeanne Long



Marcus Roth

## Ohioans that have endorsed Issue 1

Dave Abbott  
Diane Ahlers  
Julia Albertin  
Areej Alkhalidi  
A Allan  
Carly Allen  
Gary Allen  
Edward Alten  
Eileen Anderson  
Tom Anderson  
Samantha Archual  
Marilyn Ash  
David Ashbaugh  
Sierra Austin  
Victor Ayoub  
Lynn Baird  
Jan Balson  
Phyllis Banks Cook  
Maryann Barnes  
Rosemarie Basile  
Gina Bates  
Nick Bates  
Martin Baumgardner  
Donald Baun  
Jonathan Beard  
Pamela Beck  
Evelyn Behm  
Rachel Belz  
L Benedict  
Allison Bening  
Ranesha Benjamin  
Joseph Bienkowski  
Nat Binns  
Daniel Bishop  
Jane Blackie  
Shelby Blackmon  
Scott Blum  
Yancy Boman  
Daryl Bowlin  
Glynis Boyd  
Richard Bozian  
Ellen Brady  
Thomas Brainard  
John Brewer  
John Briggs  
Len Brillson  
Walt Brothers  
Brandon Brown  
Brenda Brown  
Kathryn Brown  
Kenneth Brown  
Mary Brown

Anthony Gwinn  
Kathryn Hamer  
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Sarah Hanley  
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Cathyn Johnston  
Elizabeth Jolivet  
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Kerry Reed  
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Bill Sears  
Linda Selvia  
Molly Shack  
Jack Shaner  
Beth Sheehan

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 Charlotte Bruhn  
 Armond Budish (Cuyahoga County Exec.)  
 Tom Bullock (Lakewood Councilman at Large)  
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 Michelle Burstion-Young  
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 Melissa Simmons  
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 Kay Skopin  
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 Anissa Smith  
 Gloria Smith  
 Gloria Smith  
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 Mike Dewine (Ohio Attorney  
 General)  
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 Mary Duerksen  
 Roland Duerksen  
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 Rev. John Edgar  
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 Janet Miller  
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 Laura Turcer  
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 Senator)  
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 Abby Vaile  
 Dawn Valasco  
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 David Walker  
 John Wallace  
 Timothy Wallick  
 Holly Wang  
 Andre Washington  
 Roxie Weaver  
 L Weekly  
 Rob Weidenfeld  
 Robert Weingart

Marge Fear  
Debra Fedyna  
James Fellrath  
Paul Fergus  
Rob Fетters  
Nicole Filoso  
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Patricia Fitzgerald  
Meg Flack  
Catherine Flament  
Jonathan Foise  
Sue Foley  
Dennis Foster  
Clay Fowler  
John Fralick  
Kathy Frazier  
Keith Fry  
Lori Fuzo  
Thomas Galloway  
Timothy Galvin  
Richard Garnai  
Dwight Garner  
Gardland Gates  
Greg George  
Mary Georgiton  
Mary Gerhart  
Helen Geyer  
Judy Gillman  
Eileen Goldman  
Arie Goodman  
Terra Goodnight  
Carol Gottesman  
Clifford Graham  
Donald Graves  
Randi Gregory  
Joann Gresham  
Sam Gresham  
Susan Griner  
Amy Grubbe  
Jon Gustafson  
Amari Gwinn

Meredith Needham  
Adrienne Nelson  
Sean Nestor  
David Neuendorff  
Alan Nichols  
Brian Nickels  
Jeff Nix  
Steven Norris  
Chanel Norton  
Mohamed Nur  
Michael Oravec  
William O'Rourke  
Fred Orth  
Cynthia Osika  
Craig Otter  
Peter Paladin  
Lowell Palm  
Ernest Paquet  
Phyllis Park  
David Patton  
Wendy Patton  
William Pearsol  
Carolyn Perkins  
Will Petrik  
Katherine Philips  
Debbie Piatt  
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Erica Pilisy  
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Wendy Pitts  
Lawrence Plagman  
Kathleen Poetsch  
Brett Porter  
Fred Powell  
Carolyn Proctor  
Ruth Radin  
Don Ralston  
Michael Rapp

Mary Shal Weinland  
Judith Weiss  
S Welch  
William Welsh  
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Nan Whaley (Dayton Mayor)  
Rhonda Wheeler  
Bert Whitaker  
Beulah White  
Sarah White  
Kyle Whitlatch  
Judith Whitley  
Joseph Wiley  
Caryn Williams  
Donna Williams  
Linda Williams  
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Vicki Williams  
Clarence Williamson  
Gay Williamson  
Judith Willour  
Hillary Wilson  
Camille Wimbish  
Diane Wissuchek  
Diana Woodbridge  
Derrick Woodham  
Rosemary Woodruff  
Julianne Woods  
Stacey Wreath  
Walter Wright  
Dianne Yambor  
Thomas Yeager  
Dave Yost (Ohio State Auditor)  
Susan Yost  
Ron Young (Ohio Rep.)  
Chandra Yungbluth  
Val Zampedro  
Lisa Zellner  
Jill Zimon



Dwight Garner



Renee Miller



Ruben Castillo Herrera



Reverend John Edgar

## Newspaper Editorial Boards that have endorsed Issue 1

**Ada Icon** [Ada Icon says vote "Yes" on Issue 1 on Nov. 3](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1GjkFqZ) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1GjkFqZ>) 10/12/2015

**The Akron Beacon Journal** [How to improve the way Ohio is governed? Consider state Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1CJs55b) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1CJs55b>) 1 7/14/2015 [Yes on Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Ft3bbL) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Ft3bbL>) 9/26/2015 [Again, for Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1QIKXU2) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1QIKXU2>) 10/17/2015

**The Athens News** [Vote for Issue 1 to revive democracy in Ohio's Legislature](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LBQXju) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LBQXju>) 10/07/2015

**The Canton Repository** [Editorial: Issue 1 addresses state's flawed legislative redistricting procedure](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1h7xt81) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1h7xt81>) 9/28/2015

**Chillicothe Gazette** [State Issues: Yes on 1 and 2, No on 3](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohne.ws/1VT3YVb) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohne.ws/1VT3YVb>) 10/10/2015

**The Cincinnati Enquirer** [Editorial: Yes on Issue 1 to end politics as usual](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://cin.ci/1GqgoIE) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://cin.ci/1GqgoIE>) 10/21/2015

**CityBeat** [Yes on Issue 1: Changes to redistricting for state representatives](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1keBQQn) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1keBQQn>) 10/28/2015

**The Cleveland Plain Dealer** [Yes on Issue 1, Ohio redistricting reform: endorsement editorial](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1YDIDVa) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1YDIDVa>) 9/24/2015

**The Columbus Dispatch** [Best chance for change: Redistricting Reform can happen through Issue 1, high-court ruling](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LGH7MF) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LGH7MF>) 7/19/2015

[Vote Yes on Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1MyBTA3) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1MyBTA3>) 1 9/27/2015

**The Courier** [Mapping reform](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1UbaBXw) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1UbaBXw>) 8/28/2015 [Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KEjSQd) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KEjSQd>) 9/24/2015

**Crain's Cleveland Business** [Yes on Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1RbyRTm) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1RbyRTm>) 10/11/2015

**The Daily Jeffersonian** [ANOTHER OHIO VIEW Mapping reform](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1URznH4) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1URznH4>) 9/08/2015

**The Intelligencer, Wheeling News-Register** [Vote in Favor Of Ohio Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PXdRzP) 10/23/2015

**The Lima News** [State Issue 1 a good solution to redistricting overreaches](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1NZzcdQ) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1NZzcdQ>) 9/05/2015

**Pomeroy Daily Sentinel** [Editorial: State Issue 1 a good solution to redistricting overreaches](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1QIM8mG) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1QIM8mG>) 10/16/2015

**The Toledo Blade** [Take back the power](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KUFkoX) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KUFkoX>) 7/05/2015 [Yes on Issue 1](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KUFkoX) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KUFkoX>) 10/04/2015 [It's](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KUFkoX)



Number 1: Ohioans should ignore the distractions, and vote to take back their state government at long last  
<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1imQzaT>) 10/25/2015

**WCPO Editorial:** Issue 1 begins to reform gerrymandering, but leaves more to do (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PE5PP6>) 10/22/2015

**Xenia Gazette** Issue 1 finds good solution for redistricting (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1MxvR0b>) 10/17/2015

**Youngstown Vindicator** Vote 'yes' on state Issue 1 (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LzEBTu>) 10/18/2015

**Zanesville Times Recorder** Editorial: State Issue 1 deserves support (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohne.ws/1hM2OgJ>) 9/26/2015

## Issue 1 Support from Ohio Politicians

U.S. Senator: Sherrod Brown (D)

Ohio Lt. Governor: Mary Taylor (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/207e49U>)

Ohio Secretary of State: Jon Husted (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1GdjoSN>)

Ohio Attorney General: Mike Dewine (R)

Ohio State Auditor: Dave Yost (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LRsn8X>)

Ohio House Speaker: Cliff Rosenberger (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PPQees>)

Ohio House Minority Leader: Fred Strahorn (D)

Ohio Senate President: Keith Faber (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1N1p2bQ>)

Ohio Senate Minority Leader: Joe Schiavonni (D)

Former Governors: George Voinovich (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-voinovich-supports-redistricting-plan>), Dick Celeste (D) and Bob Taft (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-former-ohio-governors-back-issue-1>)

Former Ohio House Speakers: Bill Batchelder (R), Armond Budish (D), Jon Husted (R) and Jo Ann Davidson (R) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/issue-1-has-strong-support-from-former-elected-officials>)



Former Senator Eric Kearney (D)



Former Rep. Matt Huffman (R)



Former Senator Tom Roberts (D)



Representative Kathleen Clyde (D)



Senator John Eklund (R)



Representative Mike Curtin (D)

## Endorsing Organizations



- A. Philip Randolph Institute
- [AAUW of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://aauwoh.org/aauwoh/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://aauwoh.org/aauwoh/>)
- ACLU Ohio
- Amalgamated Transit Union Local 697
- America Votes
- [Applied Information Resources](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://airinc.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://airinc.org/>)
- Associated Builders and Contractors of Ohio
- Buckeye Forest Council
- Butler County Democratic Party
- CASE Ohio
- [Catholic Bishops of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.catholicchronicle.org/index.php/Diocesan/ohio-bishops-oppose-state-issue-3-encourage-support-for-issues-1-and-2.html) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.catholicchronicle.org/index.php/Diocesan/ohio-bishops-oppose-state-issue-3-encourage-support-for-issues-1-and-2.html>)
- [Catholic Conference of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1O3nXl3) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1O3nXl3>)
- Champaign County Democratic Party
- [Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KAIKV5) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KAIKV5>)
- Clermont County Democratic Party
- Cleveland State University College Democrats
- Clintonville for Change
- Coalition of Democratic and Progressive Organizations of Central Ohio
- Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio
- College Democrats at Ohio State
- College Democrats of Ohio
- [Columbus Chamber of Commerce](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kWnepF) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kWnepF>)
- Columbus Chapter Alumnae of Delta Sigma Theta
- Columbus Dog Connection
- [Common Cause Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.commoncause.org/issues/voting-and-elections/redistricting/ohio/ohio.html) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.commoncause.org/issues/voting-and-elections/redistricting/ohio/ohio.html>)
- Communications Workers of America District 4
- [County Commissioners Association of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.timesjournal.com/government/article_d0d806c5-f267-50f4-b532-150264f5112c.html) ([http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.timesjournal.com/government/article\\_d0d806c5-f267-50f4-b532-150264f5112c.html](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.timesjournal.com/government/article_d0d806c5-f267-50f4-b532-150264f5112c.html))
- [Dayton Area Chamber of Commerce](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1jLIEqe) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1jLIEqe>)
- Delaware County Democratic Party
- Democratic Organization of Carroll County
- Democratic Voices
- [Erie County Democratic Party](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1N2Sazh) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1N2Sazh>)



(<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1LZImDX>)

Deidra Reese of Ohio Voice



(<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1H4stYG>)

Scott DiMauro of the Ohio Education Association



Molly Shack of the Ohio Organizing

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- [Equality Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.equalityohio.org/blog-equality-ohio-endorses-issue-1/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.equalityohio.org/blog-equality-ohio-endorses-issue-1/>)
- [Fair Elections Legal Network](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://fairelectionsnetwork.com/blog-posts/fair-districts-will-ensure-every-ohioans-vote-matters/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://fairelectionsnetwork.com/blog-posts/fair-districts-will-ensure-every-ohioans-vote-matters/>)
- Faith for Common Good
- Faith in Public Life
- Food and Water Watch
- Franklin Area Chamber of Commerce
- Franklin County Democratic Party
- Franklin County Democratic Women's Club
- [Fraternal Order of Police of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/the-fraternal-order-of-police-of-ohio-endorses-bipartisan-redistricting-reform-competitive-districts-mean-accountability-for-ohio-residents) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/the-fraternal-order-of-police-of-ohio-endorses-bipartisan-redistricting-reform-competitive-districts-mean-accountability-for-ohio-residents>)
- Gahanna Progressive Alliance
- Geauga County Democratic Party
- [Greater Cleveland Partnership](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1HerS6O) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1HerS6O>)
- Human Service Chamber of Franklin County
- [Independent Lines Advocacy](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://independentlines.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://independentlines.org/>)
- Innovation Ohio
- International Union of Painters & Allied Trades District 6
- Lakewood Democratic Club
- League of Women Voters of Ashtabula County
- [League of Women Voters of the Cincinnati Area](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1jA5bV8) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1jA5bV8>)
- League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland
- League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland, Rocky River Chapter
- League of Women Voters of Greater Cleveland, Shaker Heights Chapter
- League of Women Voters of Kent
- League of Women Voters of Metropolitan Columbus
- [League of Women Voters of Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://lwvohio.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://lwvohio.org/>)
- Lucas County Democratic Party
- Miami Voter Protection Coalition
- Mom's Clean Air Force of Ohio
- [NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/issue-1-a-way-to-hold-elected-officials-accountable-to-voters) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/issue-1-a-way-to-hold-elected-officials-accountable-to-voters>)
- No Labels Ohio
- Northeast Ohio Alliance for Hope
- [Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Sc6C8q) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Sc6C8q>)

Collaborative



Trish Demeter of the Ohio Environmental Council

[yesforissue1.org](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PLAFST)  
(<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PLAFST>)

Petee Talley of the Ohio Unity Coalition



(<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1G7H5vH>)

Bill Faith of the Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio

- Northeast Ohio Voter Advocates
- [Nuns on the Bus Ohio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU>)
- [Ohio AFL-CIO](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohioaflcio.com/ohio-afl-cio-endorses-issue-1/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohioaflcio.com/ohio-afl-cio-endorses-issue-1/>)
- [Ohio Agri Business Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KIItk1u) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1KIItk1u>)
- [Ohio Association of REALTORS](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.akronclevelandrealtors.com/2015/10/16/oar-supports-passage-of-state-issue-1/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.akronclevelandrealtors.com/2015/10/16/oar-supports-passage-of-state-issue-1/>)
- [Ohio Cattlemen's Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1OCoxN5) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1OCoxN5>)
- [Ohio Chamber of Commerce](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1GMYidH) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1GMYidH>)
- Ohio Chemistry Technology Council
- Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence
- Ohio Conference American Association of University Professors
- Ohio Conference of the NAACP
- Ohio Council of Churches
- [Ohio Council of Retail Merchants](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU>)
- Ohio County Commissioners Association
- [Ohio Democratic Party](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohiodems.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohiodems.org/>)
- [Ohio Democratic County Chairs Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.ohiodcca.org/know-the-petition-process-before-you-sign-a-petition/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.ohiodcca.org/know-the-petition-process-before-you-sign-a-petition/>)
- Ohio Democratic Women's Caucus
- [Ohio Education Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/why-im-supporting-state-issue-1) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/why-im-supporting-state-issue-1>)
- [Ohio Environmental Council](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.theoec.org/one-ohio) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.theoec.org/one-ohio>)
- Ohio Farm Bureau
- Ohio Farmers Union
- Ohio Federation of Teachers
- [Ohio Green Party](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.ohiogreens.org/story/green-party-ohio-announces-recommendations-ohio-statewide-ballot-issues) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.ohiogreens.org/story/green-party-ohio-announces-recommendations-ohio-statewide-ballot-issues>)
- [Ohio Grocers Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Wkdpm4) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Wkdpm4>)
- [Ohio Legislative Black Caucus](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-ohio-legislative-black-caucus-endorses-issue-1) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-ohio-legislative-black-caucus-endorses-issue-1>)
- [Ohio Manufacturers' Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-ohio-manufacturers-association-endorses-issue-1) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog/press-release-ohio-manufacturers-association-endorses-issue-1>)
- Ohio Organizing Collaborative
- Ohio Progressive Army



Randi Gregory of NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio



Terra Goodnight of Innovation Ohio



Ellis Jacobs of the Miami Voter Protection Coalition



- Ohio Progressive Talk
- Ohio Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice
- Ohio Republican Party
- Ohio Right to Life
- [Ohio Society of CPA's](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PPQees) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PPQees>)
- [Ohio Soybean Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Rgwkb4) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1Rgwkb4>)
- [Ohio State Bar Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1kHRYKU>)
- [Ohio State Medical Association's Political Action Committee \(OSMAPAC\)](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/https://www.osma.org/Public-Affairs/News/OSMA-Yes-on-Issues-1-and-2/?zbrandid=3004&zidType=CH&zid=29920404&zsubscriberId=750046852&zbdom=http%3A%2F%2Fosma.informz.net) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/https://www.osma.org/Public-Affairs/News/OSMA-Yes-on-Issues-1-and-2/?zbrandid=3004&zidType=CH&zid=29920404&zsubscriberId=750046852&zbdom=http%3A%2F%2Fosma.informz.net>)
- Ohio Student Association
- [Ohio Township Association](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1XCmkfY) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1XCmkfY>)
- [Ohio Unity Coalition](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PLAFST) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://bit.ly/1PLAFST>)
- Ohio University College Democrats
- Ohio Voice
- Ohio Voter Fund
- [Ohio Voter Rights Coalition](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohiovr.com/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://ohiovr.com/>)
- One Ohio Now
- Ottawa County Democrats
- [ProgressOhio](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://progressohio.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://progressohio.org/>)
- Region V of the Black Trade Unionists
- Richland County Democratic Party
- Sandusky County Democratic Party
- Shelby Area Democratic Club
- Stonewall Democrats of Central Ohio
- [Summit County Progressive Democrats](http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://summitprogdems.org/) (<http://web.archive.org/web/20151031073547/http://summitprogdems.org/>)
- Toledo Regional Chamber of Commerce
- United Auto Workers Region 2B
- United Food and Commercial Workers Local 75
- United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1059
- Unitarian Universalist Justice Ohio
- Upper Arlington Progressive Action
- URGE: Unite for Reproductive & Gender Equity
- Warren County Democratic Party
- Westerville Progressive Alliance
- Woman's City Club of Greater Cleveland
- [Wood County Board of Commissioners](http://web.archive.org) (<http://web.archive.org>)



Lindsey Stewart of America Votes



Allie Lahey of URGE



Carolyn Perkins of the NAACP

[/web/20151031073547/http://www.presspublications.com/16743-wood-county-commissioners-yes-to-state-issues-1-and-2-no-to-issue-3\)](http://web/20151031073547/http://www.presspublications.com/16743-wood-county-commissioners-yes-to-state-issues-1-and-2-no-to-issue-3)

- Wood County Democratic party
- Worthington Area Democratic Club
- Youngstown Chamber of Commerce
- Youngstown Warren Black Caucus



Carole DePaola of the Ohio Democratic Women's Caucus



<http://www.yesforissue1.org/approaches>



[approaches](http://www.yesforissue1.org/approaches)



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The Wayback Machine - <https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org:80/details-of-the-proposal...>

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- [Home \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/)
  - [Details of the Proposal \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/details-of-the-proposal.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/details-of-the-proposal.html)
  - [What is Gerrymandering? \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/what-is-gerrymandering.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/what-is-gerrymandering.html)
  - [Take Action \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/take-action.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/take-action.html)
  - [Endorsements \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html)
  - [Media \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/media.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/media.html)
  - [Voting in Ohio \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://ohiovr.blogspot.com/p/blog-page\\_11.html\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://ohiovr.blogspot.com/p/blog-page_11.html)
  - [Blog \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/blog.html)
  - [Contact \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/contact.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/contact.html)
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- [Home \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/)
  - [Details of the Proposal \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/details-of-the-proposal.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/details-of-the-proposal.html)
  - [What is Gerrymandering? \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/what-is-gerrymandering.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/what-is-gerrymandering.html)
  - [Take Action \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/take-action.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/take-action.html)
  - [Endorsements \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html)
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## **Fair Districts = Fair Elections**

### **The Proposal**

[House Joint Resolution 12 \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/res.cfm?ID=130\\_HJR\\_12\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/res.cfm?ID=130_HJR_12)

[Issue 1 Ballot Wording \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/upload/ballotboard/2015/1-Language.pdf\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/upload/ballotboard/2015/1-Language.pdf)

[Issue 1 Ballot Explanation \(/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/uploads/5/8/7/9/58794833/issue\\_1\\_explanation\\_pro.pdf\)](/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/uploads/5/8/7/9/58794833/issue_1_explanation_pro.pdf)

[Ohio Bipartisan Redistricting Commission Amendment, Issue 1 \(2015\) - Ballotpedia \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://ballotpedia.org/Ohio\\_Bipartisan\\_Redistricting\\_Commission\\_Amendment,\\_Issue\\_1\\_\(2015\)\\_%282015%29\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://ballotpedia.org/Ohio_Bipartisan_Redistricting_Commission_Amendment,_Issue_1_(2015)_%282015%29)

### **The Current Redistricting Process in Ohio**

[Redistricting in Ohio - Ballotpedia](#)

[View current district maps \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/candidates/District%20Maps.aspx\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.sos.state.oh.us/sos/elections/candidates/District%20Maps.aspx)

[Ohio Redistricting Transparency Report, 2011 \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.lwvohio.org/assets/attachments/file/The%20Elephant%20in%20the%20Room%20-%20Transparency%20Report.pdf\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.lwvohio.org/assets/attachments/file/The%20Elephant%20in%20the%20Room%20-%20Transparency%20Report.pdf)



Issue 1 is supported by the Ohio Democratic Party, the Ohio Republican Party, the Ohio Green Party and (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html>) over 100 local and state organizations (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.yesforissue1.org/endorsements.html>).

Campaign Information: Fair Districts for Ohio (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://fairdistrictsforohio.com/>)

Statement from Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted on Redistricting Reform (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.sos.state.oh.us/SOS/mediaCenter/2015/2015-07-08-a.aspx>)

- Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.866ourvote.org/pages/ohio-issue-1>)
- Common Cause Ohio (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.commoncause.org/issues/voting-and-elections/redistricting/ohio/ohio.html>)
- Democracy Wire Blog (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.commoncause.org/democracy-wire/fair-districts-fair.html>)
- League of Women Voters of Ohio (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://lwvohio.org/>)
- ACLU of Ohio (<https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://www.acluohio.org/blog-posts/gerrymandering-a-look-at-ohio>)

#### Reforms in Issue 1 include:

- **Better partisan balance: creation of a seven-person bipartisan commission with at least two members of the minority party.**
- **Members include:**
  - Governor
  - State Auditor
  - Secretary of State
  - 1 person appointed by the Ohio Senate President
  - 1 person appointed by the Speaker of the Ohio House
  - 1 person appointed by the Ohio Senate Minority Leader
  - 1 person appointed by the Ohio House Minority Leader
- **Ban on partisan gerrymandering: explicit prohibition against drawing districts primarily to favor or disfavor a political party.**
- **Requirement that districts reflect how voters actually voted: a plan could face a legal challenge if, for example, a party that wins about half of the votes for the General Assembly does not win about half of**

the seats.

- **Limitations on maps lacking bipartisan support: If the commission approves a map without at least two votes from the minority party, the map will only be in effect for four years rather than 10. This creates an incentive for bipartisan cooperation because the majority party on the commission has no guarantee it will remain in the majority four years later.**



In 2011, legislators drew districts in secret in a hotel room they called “the bunker.” Photo by Rasevic.

## The current process for drawing lines is rigged.

Right now the Ohio Constitution allows one political party in Ohio to draw General Assembly districts to increase partisan advantage instead of ensuring fair representation. In 2011, map-makers labeled the hotel room where they drew maps in secret “the bunker” and used partisan information to draw as many districts as possible for their party. They even changed district lines for a major political donor.

If voters amend Ohio’s Constitution by approving Issue 1 in November, they would end a system of hyper-partisan manipulation of state legislative map-making with no transparency and no accountability.

[\\_ \(https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/res.cfm?ID=130\\_HJR\\_12\)](https://web.archive.org/web/20151107105403/http://archives.legislature.state.oh.us/res.cfm?ID=130_HJR_12)





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[www.fairdistrictsforohio.com](http://www.fairdistrictsforohio.com)

## Who We Are

Fair Districts for Ohio is a bipartisan coalition seeking to improve the process of drawing state legislative districts in Ohio. Co-Chairmen Matt Huffman and Vernon Sykes began building the coalition after a near unanimous vote by state lawmakers from both parties to place a constitutional amendment before the voters of Ohio to reform the process of drawing districts. With overwhelming support from both Republican and Democratic lawmakers, the issue will appear on the ballot this November giving Ohioans the opportunity to ensure state legislative districts are fair for everyone.

## About The Issue

The first major overhaul to Ohio's process of drawing state legislative districts in over 40 years, this measure brings reforms to several key areas:

---

### *Bipartisan*

- ✓ Creates a new seven-member bipartisan panel called the "Ohio Redistricting Commission."
- ✓ The commission must have at least two members from the minority party.
- ✓ Requires the commission to be co-chaired by two members, one chosen by each party.
- ✓ Requires at least two votes from each party in order to approve a district plan, otherwise a temporary plan is put in place and the commission must reconvene to redraw it.

---

### *Transparent*

- ✓ Requires all commission meetings be open to the public and broadcast by electronic means of transmission using a medium readily accessible by the general public.
- ✓ The commission must hold a minimum of three public hearings.
- ✓ Before voting on a district plan, the commission is required to present the proposal to the public and to seek public input.
- ✓ Requires the commission to submit a statement to the public explaining their process.

---

### *Fairness*

- ✓ Protects against gerrymandering by prohibiting any district from primarily favoring one political party.
- ✓ Requires districts to closely follow the statewide preferences of the voters.

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### *Accountable*

- ✓ Creates a process for the Ohio Supreme court to order the commission to redraw the map if the plan favors one political party.

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### *Protects Communities*

- ✓ Keeps our communities together by requiring a district plan to split as few counties, municipal corporations, and townships as possible.



# STATEWIDE ISSUE HISTORY

## 2018

**Issue 1**  
To Reduce Penalties for Crimes of Obtaining, Possessing, and Using Illegal Drugs  
Yes 1,623,933  
**No 2,769,140**

## 2017

**Issue 1**  
Rights for crime victims  
**Yes 1,921,172**  
No 404,957

**Issue 2**  
To require state agencies to not pay more for prescription drugs than the federal Department of Veterans Affairs and require state payment of attorney fees and expenses to specific individuals for defense t  
**Yes 483,983**  
No 1,837,608

## 2015

**Issue 1**  
Creates a bipartisan, public process for drawing legislative districts  
**Yes 2,126,822**  
No 849,043

**Issue 2**  
Anti-monopoly amendment; protects the initiative process from being used for personal economic benefit  
**Yes 1,621,329**  
No 1,537,261

**Issue 3**  
Grants a monopoly for the commercial production and sale of marijuana for recreational and medicinal purposes  
Yes 1,166,692  
**No 2,042,902**

## 2014

**Issue 1**  
To enact Section 2s of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio (Ohio Public Works)  
**Yes 797,207**  
No 427,273

## 2012

---

**Issue 1**

Pursuant to Article XVI, Section 3 of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to convene a convention to revise, alter, or amend the Ohio Constitution.

Yes 1,523,271

**No 3,248,183**

**Issue 2**

To create a state-funded commission to draw legislative and congressional districts.

Yes 1,800,105

**No 3,088, 402**

## 2011

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**Issue 1**

To increase the maximum age at which a person may be elected or appointed judge, to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of concillation, and to eliminate the authority of the governor to appoint a Supreme Court commission.

Yes 1,273,536

**No 2,080,207**

**Issue 2**

Referendum on new law relative to government union contracts and other government employment contracts and policies.

Yes 1,373,724

**No 2,202,404**

**Issue 3**

To preserve the freedom of Ohioans to choose their health care and health care coverage.

**Yes 2,268,470**

No 1,190,385

## 2010

---

**Issue 1**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to extend the Ohio Third Frontier Program by authorizing the issuance of additional general obligation bonds to promote economic growth.

**Yes 1,050,265**

No 650,988

**Issue 2**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to change the location of the Columbus casino facility authorized by previous statewide vote.

**Yes 1,154,504**

No- 534,013

## 2009

---

**Issue 1**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to authorize the state to issue bonds to provide compensation to veterans of the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq conflicts

**Yes 2,277,521**

No 876,520

**Issue 2**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to create the Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board to establish and implement standards of care for livestock and poultry.

**Yes 2,020,851**

No 1,148,538

**Issue 3**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment by initiative petition to amend the constitution to allow for one casino each in Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus, and Toledo and distribute to all ohio counties a tax on the casinos.

**Yes 1,713,288**  
No 1,519,636

## 2008

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**Issue 1**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment to Provide for earlier filing deadlines for statewide ballot issues.

**Yes 3,392,085**  
No 1,547,962

**Issue 2**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment To authorize the state to issue bonds to continue the Clean Ohio program for environmental revitalization and conservation.

**Yes 3,568,228**  
No 1,583,305

**Issue 3**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment To protect private property rights in ground water, lakes and other watercourses

**Yes 3,625,811**  
No 1,413,639

**Issue 5**

Referendum on legislation making changes to check cashing lending sometimes known as "payday lending" fees, interest rates and practices.

**Yes 3,391,282**  
No 1,940,951

**Issue 6**

Proposed Constitutional Amendment Proposed by initiative petition for a casino near Wilmington in Southwest Ohio and distribute to all Ohio counties a tax on the casino.

Yes 2,088,294  
**No 3,461,430**

## 2006

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**Issue 2**

To adopt Section 34a of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to raise the state minimum wage rate.

**Yes 2,205,850**  
No 1,687,996

**Issue 3**

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide moneys for scholarships/education funding by permitting limited gaming.

Yes 1,753,452  
**No 2,286,840**

**Issue 4**

To adopt Section 12 of Article XV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to provide a smoking ban in enclosed areas with certain exceptions.

Yes 1,450,164  
**No 2,590,448**

**Issue 5**

To enact Chapter 3794. of the Ohio Revised Code to restrict smoking in places of employment and most places open to the public.

**Yes 2,370,314**  
No 1,679,833

## 2005

---

**Issue 1**

The purpose of this amendment is to create jobs and stimulate economic growth in Ohio.

**YES 1,512,669**

NO 1,282,571

Issue 2

Vote YES to expand to all Ohio registered voters the option to vote up to 35 days prior to Election Day by mail or in person at the appropriate local board of elections.

YES 1,065,109

NO 1,840,658

Issue 3

Vote YES to restore confidence, level the playing field and reduce the influence of big money contributors in politics by significantly limiting campaign contributions to statewide and state legislative candidates and political parties.

YES 955,334

NO 1,927,502

Issue 4

Vote YES to restore competitiveness to Congressional and State legislative races in Ohio.

YES 871,898

NO 2,005,952

Issue 5

Vote YES to create a bi-partisan and independent state board of elections supervisors to administer elections similar to the county boards of elections.

YES 854,918

NO 2,001,983

2004

---

Only a union between one man and one woman may be a marriage valid in or recognized by this state and its political subdivisions.

YES 3,329,335

NO 2,065,462

2003

---

To issue bonds and provide financial support for science and technology based research and development

YES 1,195,706

NO 1,235,323

2002

---

Require a court to order treatment instead of incarceration for first-time or second-time offenders charged with or convicted of illegal possession or use of a drug

YES 1,012,682

NO 2,048,770

2000

---

To issue bonds or for environmental conservation and revitalization projects

YES 2,196,068

NO 1,628,022

1999

---

Authorize the State to Issue Bonds for School Facilities

YES 1,285,277

NO 828,426

1998

---

Authorize the State to Issue Bonds for School Facilities

YES 714,823

NO 1,101,625

Statewide One Per Cent Sales and Use Tax for Schools

YES 383,913

**NO 1,527,536**

To prohibit the hunting or taking of mourning doves

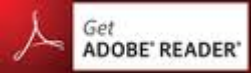
YES 1,348,533

**NO 1,976,981**

For information on issues prior to 1998, please read [A History of Statewide Issues in Ohio \(PDF\)](#).

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## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Derek Clinger, hereby certify that copies of the following documents were served via email this 22nd day of October, 2021, upon the counsel listed below:

- 1. Affidavit of Derek Clinger, Evidence of Relators, Historical Records**
- 2. Evidence of Relators, Historical Records, Volume 1 of 1 (pages 1-125)**

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