

## **2021 Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission Guidelines for Public Hearings and Submission of Testimony and Plans**

<b>Duration</b>	Hearings start at the times listed on the public hearing schedule and will last for 2 hours. The Commission may not be able to accommodate everyone who signs up to testify.
<b>Testimony Times</b>	<b>Solely congressional redistricting – 3 minutes</b>  <b>Solely legislative redistricting – 3 minutes</b>  <b>Combined congressional and legislative redistricting – 5 minutes</b>
<b>Testimony Sign-up</b>	<p>To sign up to testify at a Commission meeting, you may sign up electronically by creating a MyMGA account. Once you are signed into your MyMGA account, you may sign up to testify by clicking on “Witness Signup” on the left-hand side of the page and selecting the appropriate hearing. (Click <a href="#">here</a> for video instructions on how to create a MyMGA account and how to sign-up to testify.)</p> <p><b>For hearings scheduled on a Monday, electronic sign-up will open at 10 a.m. on the Friday before the hearing and will close at 10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.</b></p> <p><b>For all other hearings, electronic sign-up will open at 10 a.m. the day before the public hearing and will be open for 24 hours.</b></p> <p>If you do not want to create a MyMGA account or did not sign up electronically by the deadline, you may sign up in person on the day of the public hearing. Sign-up sheets will be available for 50 minutes before the start of the hearing. No one will be able to sign up and speak once the sign-up sheets are removed.</p>
<b>Written Comments</b>	<p>Testifiers who sign up electronically may upload testimony when signing up or email testimony to <a href="mailto:testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us">testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us</a>.</p> <p>Members of the public who do not wish to testify at a public hearing, but do wish to submit written comments may email written electronic comments to <a href="mailto:testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us">testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us</a>.</p> <p>Written electronic comments will be accepted at any time until the plan to which the comments relate is adopted by the General Assembly. However, if a person wishes to have written electronic comments available to members of the Commission at</p>

a particular hearing, the comments must be submitted no later than **10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.**

Written electronic comments must be submitted as a PDF. Any links contained in written electronic comments or otherwise submitted with written electronic comments will not be opened.

If written electronic comments are not submitted before a hearing, 10 hard copies will also be accepted at the hearing when the person testifies.

### **Third Party Plans**

Third party plans may be submitted by emailing the plan to [maps\\_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:maps_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us) or uploading the plan as written testimony when signing up electronically to testify at a public hearing.

Third party plans will be accepted at any time until the plan to which they relate is adopted by the General Assembly. However, if a person wishes to have a plan available to members of the Commission at a particular hearing, the plan must be submitted no later than **10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.**

Third party plans must be submitted as an equivalency file or a PDF.

### **Restrictions**

Testimony is limited to congressional and State legislative redistricting. The Commission will not hear testimony on local government redistricting (e.g. council, commissioner, municipal, school, etc.).

### **Public Record**

Commission hearings will be recorded and will be streamed live to the Maryland General Assembly YouTube Channel. The recordings will be available [here](#).

### **Special Accommodations**

American Sign Language interpretation will be provided at each in-person public hearing. Different accommodations for individuals with disabilities may be requested by submitting the [request form](#) at least 14 business days before the hearing or by contacting the General Assembly's ADA coordinator by email at [libr@mlis.state.md.us](mailto:libr@mlis.state.md.us). Requests submitted closer to the hearing will be fulfilled to the extent possible.

Closed captioning will be provided for each virtual public hearing.

A Spanish translator will be present at the hearings in Montgomery County and Prince George's County.