

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB0002
Special Session, December 6, 2021

December 3, 2021

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Maryland General Assembly:

After a long awaited opportunity to correct the some of **THE** most gerrymandered districts in the country, you, as our legislators must take decisive action to set Maryland on a better path for the future.

As an 11th generation Marylander, I live in Congressional District 3, which, geographically, honestly looks like a splatter of garbage on the street. Neighbors literally across the street from each other are known to be in different districts. How does that make sense? Parts of Anne Arundel County are found in **THREE** different congressional districts.

I listened in online to many of the public hearings of the Citizens Commission and found the members to be open-minded, knowledgeable, and committed to making new maps that were **FAIR** to every citizen of the State.

The end result was a series of maps that **ARE** much more equitable and will set a course of the voters electing their representative (at every level-local, state, and national), which is **how IT SHOULD BE**, rather than politicians choosing their voters, which is the very definition of “gerrymandering.”

The Princeton Gerrymandering Project gave the Maryland Citizens Redistricting Commission an outstanding grade of “**A**” based on the criteria of fairness, competitiveness, and geographic features which most closely aligns with the Maryland Charter which states that districts should be compact, contiguous, and honor natural geographic boundaries. This same study gave the Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission a resounding failing grade of “**F**” as it meets **NONE** of those criteria.

Please vote to set Maryland on a better path to the future of our State and vote in **favor** of HB0002.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne White
1913 Martins Cove Court
Annapolis, MD 21409