

Dec. 3, 2021

Janet Katz
143 Spa Drive
Annapolis, MD 21403

Maryland General Assembly
Annapolis, MD

RE: Redistricting maps special hearing testimony Against HB0001

Dear Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

Governor Hogan, who has had strong support from both political parties in Maryland during his tenure, formed a redistricting commission comprised of bi-partisan members during his first term. None of those members were an elected official and therefore had no vested interest in playing politics with the maps they created. However, the Democrats in the Maryland legislature created their own commission made up of all-elected representatives and demanded the participation of two Republicans. The proposed Redistricting Map connived by the Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission is greatly skewed to benefit Democrat candidates or incumbents for Maryland offices. Additionally, the Princeton Gerrymandering Project, which evaluates redistricting proposals based on partisan fairness, competitiveness and geographic features, gave the congressional map proposed by the Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission an "F" overall.

As all Maryland residents deserve transparency and to have their vote count, this gerrymandering appears to be a political ploy to manipulate election outcomes, which in fact deprives the voters of free and fair elections.

I expect you to conduct your affairs, as representatives of the people of Maryland, to stand up and be Statesmen and Stateswomen **by voting against this partisan map.**

Best regards,

Janet Katz