

March 29, 2022

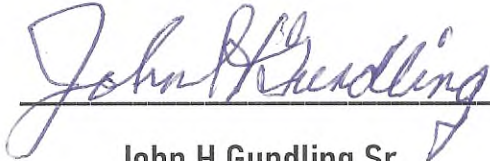
To: The Senate Reapportionment and Redistricting Committee

From: John H. Gundling Sr.—Hagerstown, MD 21742-2536

In regard to SB 1012, The proposed Maryland congressional districts now that the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court has invalidated HB1, enacted on December 9 2021, I still have a problem with the proposal as it completely ignores the Carroll County region which used to be in District 6 and instead adds the population of northern Montgomery County to the rural and suburban precincts which make up the vast majority of District 6. In other words, this proposal Marries 2 populations that don't want to live together!

While this proposal is a step in the right direction, the best proposed direction would be to completely leave out Montgomery County, and draw the district line into Carroll County, or assume it in its entirety. It doesn't seem that even a court's ruling of "Extreme Partisan Gerrymandering" in regard to the previous map, now invalidated, can deter those in the General Assembly who don't want ANY Republican representation in Congress coming from Maryland.

As I stated in my oral testimony given December 6, 2021, I haven't been represented to or by anyone who thinks and feels the way I do since Roscoe Bartlett lost his 11th bid to keep his seat in Congress. By any way I look at this quagmire, the current process adds up to one-party rule, and plenty of taxation without representation!! That sounds familiar—I seem to remember a slogan from the 1770's that went "No taxation without representation!" Thank-you for reading.


John H Gundling Sr.