



# MARYLAND FORWARD PARTY

*Not Left. Not Right. Forward.*

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**BILL NO: HB2100/SB2100**

**TITLE:** Election Districts - General Assembly and Representatives in Congress

**COMMITTEE:** House Government, Labor and Elections; Senate Education, Energy and Environment

**POSITION: UNFAVORABLE**

**DATE: 03 August 2026**

**TO:** Chairs, Vice Chairs, and Members of the Committees

**FROM:** Maryland Forward Party

**SUBJECT:** State Constitutional Standards for Congressional Districts

Maryland Forward Party opposes HB2100/SB2100. Partisan gerrymandering, regardless of the party who benefits, and the circumstances used to justify it, is undemocratic and wrong. It is a primary contributor to the gridlock and dysfunction in the U.S. Congress, with hyper-partisan districts that elect hyper-partisan legislators, preventing Congress from functioning as a co-equal branch. HB2100/SB2100 enables partisan gerrymandering and will only enable this dysfunction.

The Constitution of Maryland states "each legislative district shall consist of adjoining territory, be compact in form, and of substantially equal population. Due regard shall be given to natural boundaries and the boundaries of political subdivisions." We are told this amendment will "clarify" that congressional districts do not need to comply these requirements.

But why shouldn't they? This amendment should be about fixing the Maryland Constitution to extend those fair and transparent criteria (and we would add others) to Congressional districts. Maryland citizens should understand what these criteria are. This amendment is purposefully opaque on that.

When this mid-cycle redistricting effort began last fall, the Governor stated: ". . . if other states will determine whether or not they have fair maps, so will Maryland." But right now, 51% of Maryland voters are democrats, and democrats hold 7 out of 8 of Maryland's congressional seats. This amendment only clears the way for the majority party to take that one remaining seat, ignoring the other 49% of Maryland voters. That is not a "fair" map by any measure.

What would be fair is an amendment that gives Maryland voters a non-partisan, independent redistricting commission by the 2030 census. We have an election in November, then four years to accomplish this. Let's all do that for Maryland voters.





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We urge these Committees to provide a UNFAVORABLE report on HB2100 and SB2100.

Sincerely,  
*Lee Bradshaw*  
Legislative Committee Chair  
Maryland Forward Party