

Subject: Please Oppose Mid-Decade Congressional Redistricting in Maryland

Dear Maryland Senators and Elected officials:

I am writing to urge you to oppose any effort to redraw Maryland's congressional districts in the middle of the decade, particularly through a process designed to alter the political balance of our congressional delegation before the 2026 elections.

Redistricting should be guided by the interests of Maryland voters—not by the short-term interests of whichever political party happens to control the legislature. Maryland completed its congressional redistricting process following the 2020 census. Reopening the maps now, before the next regularly scheduled census, risks turning redistricting into an ongoing political weapon rather than a stable constitutional process.

The circumstances surrounding the current proposal are especially troubling. The 2026 redistricting effort has been widely understood as an attempt to make Maryland's only Republican-held congressional district more favorable to Democrats. Whatever one's political affiliation, using the power of government to redraw electoral boundaries for the purpose of securing additional seats for one party sets a dangerous precedent. If one party can redraw districts whenever political circumstances change, the process becomes a never-ending cycle of partisan retaliation.

That is not good for Maryland voters.

Mid-decade redistricting also raises serious questions about public trust. Voters should be able to believe that the boundaries of their congressional districts are established through a fair, transparent, and principled process—not changed because political leaders believe a different map could produce a more favorable election outcome.

There are also legitimate legal concerns. Maryland's recent history demonstrates the risks associated with aggressive partisan redistricting. A previous congressional map was challenged in court, and Maryland lawmakers should be extremely cautious about adopting another map that could invite years of litigation, uncertainty, and disruption.

The fact that Maryland already has a congressional delegation with a strong Democratic majority makes the argument for immediate mid-decade redistricting even less compelling. This is not a situation in which Maryland voters are being denied meaningful representation because of population changes following a census. Instead, the proposed changes appear primarily motivated by the desire to alter the partisan outcome of congressional elections.

I also urge you to consider the precedent this could establish. If Maryland redraws its congressional districts now to respond to actions taken by other states, what happens when political control changes in Maryland or elsewhere? Do we redraw the maps again? And again? A democracy cannot function well when electoral boundaries become subject to continual political revision.

Maryland should lead by example—not by joining an escalating national cycle of partisan redistricting, but by insisting on a fair and consistent process that respects voters of every political affiliation.

I respectfully ask you to:

1. Oppose any mid-decade congressional redistricting designed primarily to benefit one political party;
2. Reject efforts to manipulate district boundaries for short-term electoral advantage;
3. Protect the integrity and independence of Maryland's redistricting process;
4. Support transparent, bipartisan, and constitutionally sound redistricting standards; and
5. Preserve the principle that congressional districts should be redrawn through the regular decennial process unless there is a compelling, legally required reason to do otherwise.

Maryland voters deserve representatives who choose their voters through fair elections—not politicians who choose their voters through strategically drawn maps.

I urge you to stand for fair representation, constitutional stability, and public trust by opposing mid-decade partisan redistricting.

Thank you for your consideration and for your service to the people of Maryland.

Sincerely,

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