

HB2100 - Unfavorable

As a Democrat registered to vote in Maryland, I am appalled at this “emergency” piece of legislation being submitted by Maryland Democrats to allow elected officials to choose their voters rather than the other way around. I live in Olney Maryland (just outside DC) and over the last two decades I have been bounced around to multiple different congressional districts. For two terms I was placed in a wildly gerrymandered congressional district that also included Perry Hall, Maryland and Towson, Maryland. These jurisdictions north of Baltimore certainly are not compact districts with the same common interest as my community just out DC as intended in drawing congressional district lines.

HB2100 appears to be a bill that will further allow the Maryland political machine to pick their voters in future elections further disenfranchising both Republican and Democrat voters in Maryland. This bill is particularly targeted at the Eastern Shore that is already a compact district of people with common interests naturally separated from other jurisdictions in Maryland by a natural barrier, the Chesapeake Bay. The main purpose of this bill is to allow an otherwise corrupt manipulation of congressional districts.

It is time to stop the intentional disenfranchising of Maryland voters by continually changing the laws to allow the political machine to determine congressional districts based on the number of Democrats in the newly drawn districts. Instead, the State should go back to compact districts of people with common interests as was originally intended. This would mean an entire Maryland County would be in the same district with only some spillover into an ADJACENT country to fulfill the population requirement.

It is disheartening to see that the Maryland General Assembly is willing to change the State Constitution to further what would otherwise be an illegal manipulation of congressional districts for the purpose of allowing politicians to choose their voters. Any politician with integrity should vote against HB2100. I encourage the General Assembly to reject HB2100.

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