

Testimony against HB0482 For Legislative and Congressional Redistricting – Monday
January 26, 2026, 1:00 PM

I am Rob Hammond from Oakland MD. I live on the last farm in Maryland, if you travel 200 feet west, you will be in West Virginia!

The proposed redistricting by the Democrat majority is a blatant power grab for an already unfairly gerrymandered state. The majority wants to eliminate the last reliable Republican district in a state, that by its voting record, should have two, possibly three Republican congress people.

Some Democrats will suggest that the reason they are undertaking this clearly undemocratic maneuver, is because states like Texas did the same for Republicans. And why did Texas Republicans, a state like Maryland, with one party rule, make the blatantly undemocratic move that our majority is now trying to undertake? It is because they looked around at states like California, New Jersey, and Maryland and saw how unfair those states were to Republicans, and they felt they had to do something to counterbalance the unfair representation in those states.

Lastly, Democrats may feel secure that they have a lock on Annapolis well into the future, I would like to remind politicians that voters of all parties don't like unfairness. President Trump was elected in part, by the outrageous prosecutions and the pre-dawn raiding of his residence by Democrat prosecutors for the equivalent crimes of public littering. Many Democratic leaning voters saw the obvious unfairness and sympathetically voted for the Republican.

Politicians that unfairly stack the deck in their favor, threaten democracy. My hope is for a future where we find a way to draw districts without partisan influence. Until then, we need to hold our politician's feet to the fire when they violate the public trust. The gerrymandering in Texas was not justified, and the proposed gerrymandering in this state which is already unfairly gerrymandered is a disgrace!