

Maryland Poor People's Campaign



HB488 - Election Districts - General Assembly and Representatives in Congress

January 25, 2026

Position: Favorable

The Maryland Poor People's Campaign urges you to support HB 488 and to move forward with the new map immediately and legislatively.

The selected map incorporates public feedback presented by advocates over the course of months through the GRAC process. The map pays thoughtful attention to Maryland's communities. This map strengthens community representation, particularly for water-based communities, Baltimore City, the Capital Region, and fast-growing economic corridors.

Maryland is at a critical moment, and the path forward is clear. Across the country, Republican-led states are aggressively redrawing congressional maps to entrench power and silence voters before they can be held accountable. This is not speculation. It is already happening. And it is reshaping the national balance of power in real time. Maryland cannot hesitate. We cannot hide behind process debates or procedural caution. At moments like this, delay is surrender.

I can hardly recount how many ways the administration is hurting my community in Maryland and the wider state, not to mention my personal life. I have lost my job because my USAID public health grant was canceled. I have a new baby to support and I now am worried I won't be able to get health insurance that will cover a life saving allergy medication that I get that is \$6,000 per month. Whether it is friends and neighbors to have lost jobs, to friends who don't know how to make ends meet with reduced SNAP. To the stories that all of Langley Park is in ICE detention in Baltimore. To the expecting mothers I gave second hand baby clothes to the other day whose husbands have been detained. To the ICE detentions I regularly see when leaving the house. This needs to stop.

These are just a few of my personal experiences. The Maryland Poor People's Campaign's community has so so many more.

The Commission has done its work. Now the General Assembly must decide whether it will follow the voters or ignore them. Maryland voters are not divided or uncertain about what they want their leaders to do. Recent polling shows that 54 percent of Maryland voters support moving forward with congressional redistricting. Among Democratic primary voters, support is even stronger. 68 percent say they strongly favor new congressional maps. That is a clear mandate; voters are asking for action.

The Maryland Poor People's Campaign] urges you to move favorable on HB 488. For more information contact: policy@mdpoorpeopescampaign.org