

## *HB 0488 Election Districts -- General Assembly and Representatives in Congress*

*Dear Members of the General Assembly,*

*My name is Jean Breen. I live in Montgomery County, Maryland, Congressional District 8 and Legislative District 15. I believe in law and order and expect our legislators to represent all citizens fairly.*

*Governor Moore's request to redraw Maryland's congressional boundaries is unfair and clearly political. Redistricting should not be aimed at maximizing partisan advantage, and blaming President Donald J. Trump for the issue does not change the underlying concern. Redrawing districts to remove Republican representation would disenfranchise voters and undermine the basic principles of representative government.*

*Maryland currently has only one Republican representative out of eight congressional districts. The Governor's proposal would eliminate that district, effectively silencing the voices of approximately 38 percent of Maryland voters who identify as Republican including me as a naturalized citizen who values fair participation in our democracy.*

*Maryland courts have previously emphasized that partisan maneuvering cannot dominate the districting process or overwhelm the principles of compactness, continuity, and respect for county and municipal boundaries. Reopening this matter now risks undermining voter confidence, election stability, and public trust in the fairness of*

our system. Maryland voters deserve balanced and impartial representation—not gerrymandering that favors one party.

Expressing concerns about fair representation does not threaten American democracy, freedom, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, or the rule of law. On the contrary, it is a legitimate and important part of civic participation.

The proposed boundaries also appear to violate long-standing Maryland court principles and run counter to the constitutional standards the state has been required to follow previous gerrymandering lawsuits.

For these reasons, I respectfully request an unfavorable vote on “HB 0488 Election Districts General Assembly and Representatives in Congress.”

Thank you for your consideration.

Jean V Breen, Silver Spring, Maryland. Legislative District 14