

To the Members of the Maryland General Assembly,

My name is Ashley Young, and I am a resident of Calvert County, Maryland, raising two small children who are not yet in school. Like many families in Southern Maryland, I work hard to balance employment, childcare, and the rising cost of living. I am writing to respectfully oppose the proposed congressional redistricting plan currently under consideration by the General Assembly.

Calvert County and Southern Maryland represent a distinct community with shared economic, geographic, and cultural interests. Our region has historically voted differently than much of the rest of the state, particularly in federal elections, reflecting values that deserve fair and proportional representation. When district lines are drawn to intentionally dilute or override those voices, it sends a clear message that some communities matter less than others.

The proposed map advanced by the Governor's Redistricting Advisory Commission would likely result in a single-party congressional delegation by redrawing district boundaries in ways that appear designed to produce a predetermined political outcome. Gerrymandering of any kind—by either party—reduces electoral competitiveness, weakens accountability, and erodes public trust in government. Fair maps should be compact, transparent, and respectful of existing county and community boundaries, not constructed to engineer election results.

As a parent, I am deeply concerned about the example we set for the next generation. I want my children to grow up believing that elections are fair, that their vote matters, and that representation is earned—not manipulated. Families already struggling to make ends meet should not also have to fight to be heard because of lines drawn on a map.

I urge the Maryland General Assembly to reject any redistricting plan that prioritizes partisan advantage over fair representation. Please choose a path that respects communities of interest, preserves regional voices like those in Southern Maryland, and upholds the integrity of our democratic process.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Ashley Young
Calvert County, Maryland