

HB0488 - Election Districts - General Assembly and Representatives in Congress

Position – Unfavorable

To Governor Moore and all Members of the Maryland General Assembly:

By way of elections, you were hired by Maryland residents to represent Maryland residents. You work for Maryland residents. You were not hired by any other state or the federal government to represent their interests. It is your sworn duty to serve in the best interest of Marylanders. Disenfranchising entire regions of the state, specifically the rural Eastern Shore and Western Maryland counties, by blatantly gerrymandering their voting districts into the Baltimore/DC metropolitan areas, violates that sworn duty. It silences them. All residents in all parts of the state deserve a voice. We do not deserve to be used as political pawns in national politics.

According to the 2024 Maryland voter registration statistics, 53% of voters are Democrat, 24% are Republican, and 23% are unaffiliated or other. Thus, fairly drawn congressional districts would consist of four that are majority Democrat, two that are majority Republican, and two competitive districts. The currently gerrymandered districts are six Democrat, one Republican, and one competitive. The proposed district map is obviously designed to eliminate and silence the state's lone Republican voice in Congress. This is tyranny and is grossly unfair to the Maryland residents that you have sworn to serve. Therefore, I urge you not to pass HB0488.

Respectfully,

Diana Barrett